





THE
HISTORY AND TOPOGRAPHY
OF THE
COUNTY OF ESSEX,

ILLUSTRATED BY

A SERIES OF VIEWS

TAKEN ON THE SPOT, BY MESSRS. G. ARNOLD, A.R.A., BARTLETT, CAMPION, &c.

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THE HISTORY OF THE COUNTY OF ESSEX.

BOOK II.—CHAPTER V.

HUNDRED OF HINCKFORD.

GOSFIELD.

THE parish of Gosfield is bounded northward by Sible Hedingham, and extends to Bocking southward, to Halstead eastward, and on the west is bounded by Wethersfield. The general situation of this parish is considerably elevated, the grounds gradually rising in almost every direction; the soil is in various proportions mixed with sand and gravel, and generally very productive.* The name is supposed to be from the Saxon *gor*, a goose, or *gor*þ, a heath, and *feld* a field, and in records is written *Gocfeild*, *Gorefeld*, *Gorsfeild*, *Gosfeld*, and *Gosfend*. When Domesday-book was compiled, Gosfield was included in the lordships of Hedingham Castle, Halstead, Bocking, Wethersfield, and Gestingthorp;† but was separated and made a distinct parish in the time of Henry the second, as is evident from a charter of Alberic de Vere,‡ and from the ancient family of De Gosfend having flourished here about that time.

CHAP. V.
Gosfield.

This parish is distant from Halstead two, from Braintree four, and from London forty-five miles.

The ancient and stately mansion of Gosfield Hall is much altered from its original appearance, yet presents one of the most perfect specimens of the castellated mansions of the nobility of this country, in the time of Henry the seventh; who, strictly enforcing the ancient prerogative of the crown, which prohibited his subjects from erecting fortresses, gave occasion to the introduction of this mode of constructing houses, possessing the impregnability without the appearance of castles. This building

Gosfield
Hall.

* Average annual produce per acre—wheat 22, barley 32 bushels.

† Therefore it is not mentioned in that record.

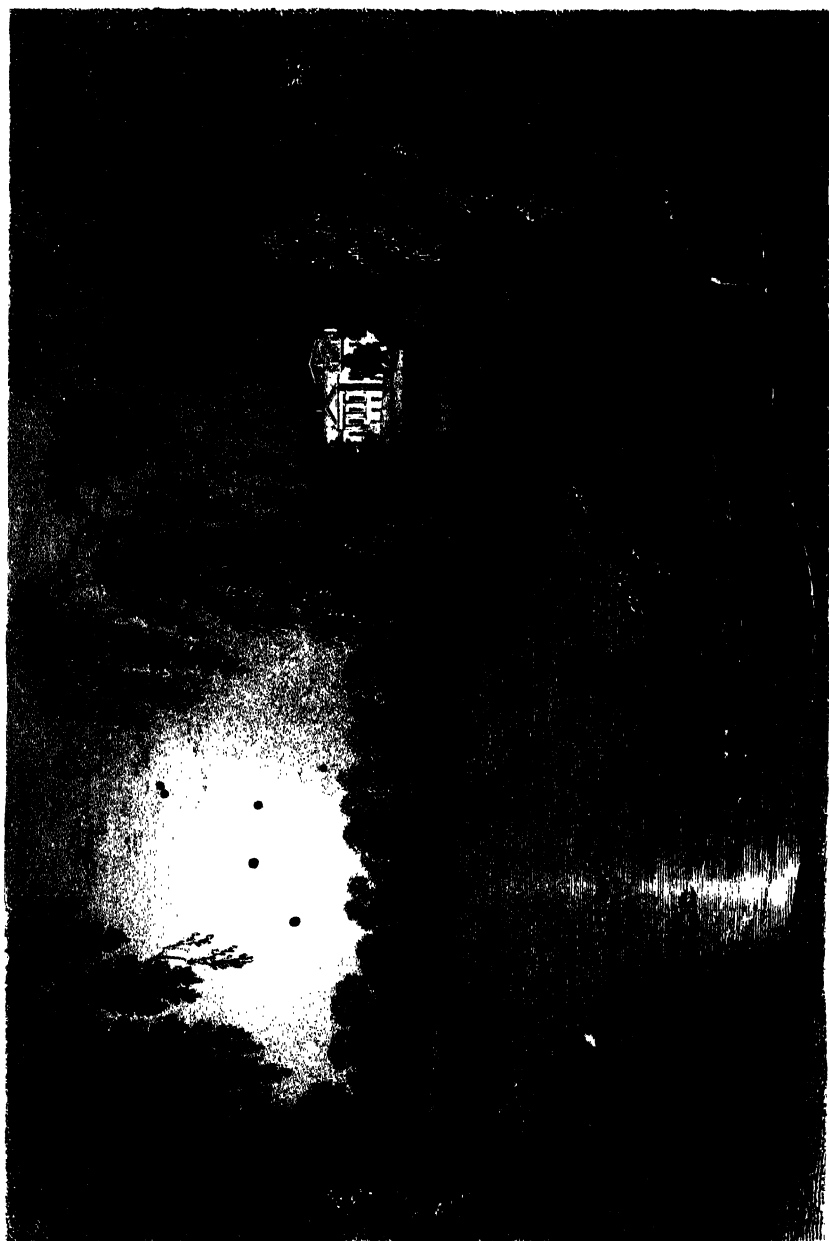
‡ The second earl of Oxford, who succeeded his father in 1194: his charter for the endowment of the nunnery of Hedingham Castle, mentions Gosfield as “*boscum de Gosfeld qui appellatur Ruthebrake. quod est feodo de Hegham.*”—*Monastic. Anglie*. vol. i. p. 1021.

BOOK II.

has undergone the greatest alteration on the north, east, and south, and only the western façade has preserved its original character. It was an extensive brick building, consisting of suites of apartments, inclosing a quadrangular court, into which all the windows of the lower floors opened, there being originally no windows on the outside, except to the upper story, and those strongly barricaded; which rendered it difficult to force an entrance by any other method than that of effecting a breach in the walls, which were of astonishing strength and thickness. The original ground plan allowed of only one apartment in breadth, and there was no passage but from one apartment to another: it was therefore found convenient, in the new arrangement, to cut off a passage the whole length of the interior court, from the north and south tiers of rooms; and outwardly, the north, east, and south fronts were rebuilt by John Knight, esq. and much improved in elegance and convenience. The west side remains nearly in its former state, and the first floor is occupied by an apartment one hundred and six feet in length, and twelve in width, which has received the appellation of queen Elizabeth's gallery, in commemoration of that queen having twice visited lady Rich, at Gosfield.

In the library room there is an ancient sculptured stone chimney-piece of considerable interest, from its subject and execution. It represents, in bold relief, the memorable battle of Bosworth Field, between Richard the third and the earl of Richmond, and contains twenty-four figures on horseback, with the king lying prostrate under his own charger. Most of the personages introduced are known by the armorial bearings on their shields. Among others are the duke of Norfolk, the earls of Surrey and Northumberland, sir Simon Digby, sir Walter Blount, sir William Herbert, lord Stanley, sir George Stauley, sir William Brandon, lord Edward Stafford, sir Gilbert Talbot, sir R. Ratcliffe, sir J. Tyrell, Edward lord Lovell, and the earl of Oxford. At the extremities of the chimney-piece there are small statues of Henry the seventh and his queen, exactly resembling those on the monument at Westminster Abbey. The exact date of this sculpture is not known, but it is of indisputable antiquity, having been removed from Bois Hall in the year 1687; and one of the earls of Oxford, the proprietors of that place, was a partisan of the earl of Richmond.

The park is extensive, and ornamented by a great number of fine old trees. "Gosfield," says Arthur Young, "in my opinion merits much attention, from the circumstance of having been formed, about sixty years ago, by the late earl Nugent, before the spirit of decoration took place: he did it himself. The lake is a happy effort, and just what Brown would have executed: the plantations are so disposed as to attract the eye in every direction; and, were the hedges cleared of pollards for a few miles around the village, the woods would be seen in a very magnificent outline on every side."



The labouring population of Gosfield have received substantial benefit from the introduction of the straw-plat manufacture, by the marquis and marchioness of Buckingham, which, though at first of difficult establishment, has now spread over the country to a considerable distance.*

From the Grey family this lordship passed by sale to the Millingtons, in the commencement of the eighteenth century; and was soon afterwards conveyed to John Knight, esq. who, on his decease in 1733, bequeathed it to his wife Anne; and this lady was married to Robert Nugent, esq. afterwards earl Nugent, from whom the estate passed, in 1788, to George, marquis of Buckingham. Gosfield Hall is now the seat of G. E. Bernard, esq.

The manor of Gosfield, or Bellowes, continued, for several ages after the Conquest, in possession of the noble family of Vere, forming part of the demesne lands of the honour of Hedingham Castle. Adam de Gosfend held it under Aubrey, the first earl, and was succeeded by his son, styled Ralph, the son of Adam; William Fitz-Adam, the next recorded possessor of the estate, in the reign of Henry the third, is believed to have been Ralph's brother and heir; in the two succeeding reigns of Edward the first and Edward the second, it was in the possession of sir John Bellowe; in 1314, a court was held in the names of John Galaunt and John Calth; and, in the same year, John Hawkwood, Margery his wife, and John their son and heir, held their first court here. John Hawkwood held this possession in 1353, and in the court rolls of that period the manor is called Hawkwoods Gosfield, from which it appears that the name of Bellowes had not been appropriated to it at that time, though it has since. It soon after came into the Rolfe family.

The estate formerly named Gosfield manor, Monthermers, Mohermers, and Har-
mers, extended into the parishes of Gosfield, Bocking, and Finchingfield. Ralph de Monthermer, the first possessor of this estate on record, was esquire to Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford, who died in 1295, having had the honour of marrying Joan of Acre, second daughter of king Edward the first, who, after his decease, took this Ralph for her husband, without the licence and authority of the king, her father, who in consequence ordered his imprisonment, and her lands to be seized. These were both, however, soon afterwards restored, and her husband, for his good conduct, particularly in the wars in Scotland, was created earl of Athol. During her life he bore this and the title of earl of Gloucester and Hertford; but, after her decease in 1307, had only the title of baron Monthermer, by which he was summoned to nearly all the parliaments of the reign of Edward the second. He had

Manor of
Gosfield,
or Mont-
hermers

* The first hats produced were of a coarse and unsightly appearance, which no person would wear, and it seemed hopeless to attempt their introduction as articles of dress; but lady Buckingham decorated one with ribbons, and wore it in sight of the whole village; the marquis went to church in another; and, at length, by extraordinary perseverance, their benevolent purpose was completely accomplished.

BOOK II. by her two sons, Thomas and Edward: the latter of whom died soon after his mother. The baron's second wife was Isabel, widow of John de Hastings, sister and co-heiress of Audomar de Valence, earl of Pembroke. On his decease in 1326, he was succeeded by his son Thomas, slain in a sea-fight, in 1340, leaving Margaret, his only daughter and heiress, married to sir John Montacute, brother to William, earl of Salisbury, who died in 1389, holding this among his other estates. Margaret, his widow, also held this manor, one moiety of which is said to lie in Gosfield, holden under the earl of Oxford; the other lying in Bocking and Finchingfield, and holden under the prior of Christchurch, in Canterbury: she died in 1394, and was succeeded by her eldest son, sir John Montacute,* who, upon the death of his uncle William, in 1398, became earl of Salisbury. He was slain in a popular tumult at Cirencester, in 1399, and being opposed to the interests of king Henry the fourth, and one of the friends and supporters of Richard the second, he was declared a traitor by the parliament, and all his lands and possessions seized; therefore, Thomas, his son and heir, does not appear to have had possession of this estate: he died in 1432, and in the inquisitions it is stated that "John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, held one fee in Gosfield and Bocking, which Ralph de Monthermer once had:" John was his son and heir. In 1466, Tywer, son of Philippa, grand-daughter of John Brokeman, was in possession of this manor, which ultimately passed to the heirs of Thomas Rolfe, esq.

Hodings,
or Church
Hall.

The manor called Hodings, or Church Hall, had the mansion-house near the church, and was at an early period in possession of the family of Hodenge, of Wansted and Burnham. In 1246, John de Hodenge held this estate of the earl of Oxford, as did also several of the same surname, in the reign of king Edward the first; and it was holden, by Thomas de Hodenge, as a quarter of a knight's fee, in 1326 and 1360: in 1371, Thomas de Vere, earl of Oxford, is recorded to have died, having, among his possessions, this quarter of a fee in Gosfield, without any under tenant; from whence it may be inferred that the family of Hodenge had become extinct. The Rolfe family were soon afterwards possessed of this estate.

Park Hall.

Park Hall was a very ancient manor, with an extensive park, named Winshey, or Edwin's Hoy, near Codham Field. Some of the lands extended into Gestingthorp, forming part of the manor of Overhall, in that parish.

In 1256, it was holden, by Otto Fitz-William, of the earl of Gloucester, as two carucates in Gestingthorp and Gosfield, by the service of one knight's fee; and, in 1260, it was holden as two hamlets, by William Fitz-Otto; succeeded by Thomas in 1274, and in 1282 by his son.

The next recorded owner is sir John Botetourt, in 1338. In 1360, sir John Hawkwood held a court here, as did also Nicholas Hawkwood, chaplain, and others,

* He married Mand, daughter and heiress of sir Adam Francis, by whom he had Thomas, Richard, and three daughters. Arms of Montacute: Argent, three lozenges in fesse, gules.

in 1363, and Roger Keterich in 1376: the same person held it of the duke of Gloucester in 1392, at which time it is stated to have been separated from Overhall. OHAP. V.

Sir William Bouchier, John Tyrell, John Doreward, junior, John Green, Richard Fitz-Nicholas and others, kept court here, supposed as trustees, in 1416; and, in 1420, John Doreward, esq. of Bocking, held Park Hall of the earl of March, as of his honour of Gloucester, by the service of half a knight's fee: his son, also, of the same name, held it at the time of his decease, in 1476, of Cicely, duchess of York.

The ancient knightly family of Liston were the first recorded possessors of the manor which has retained their name. In 1266, Geoffrey de Liston died, holding this manor of the earl of Oxford, as the fourth part of a knight's fee: and it was retained by the same family till toward the close of the reign of king Edward the third. Liston Hall.

Richard Lyons, beheaded in London by the insurgents under Wat Tyler, was the next recorded proprietor, by whom, previous to his murder in 1381, it was conveyed to Lady Alice de Neville: it afterwards passed to Thomas Hodings, and to John Helyon, who died in 1450. It afterwards belonged to the heirs of Thomas Rolfe, esq. whose daughter Editha, by her second husband, John Green, esq. had two daughters; Mary, married to sir Henry Tey; and Agnes, to sir William Finnerne, and they jointly did homage for this estate in 1497. In 1524, it belonged to Thomas Finnerne, Esq.

In 1552, it was holden by Thomas Neville, and by Thomas Winterflood in 1558; and Richard Winterflood died in possession of it, in 1563, leaving Thomas his son and heir. It appears to have passed afterwards to the Wentworth family.

During the reign of Edward the third, the Shardlowe family was in possession of the estate which has retained their name;* it was holden of the earl of Oxford, by Thomas de Shardlowe, in 1352, 1360, and 1371, but the family seat was at Tilbury, near Clare. Shardlowes.

It afterwards belonged to Richard Lyons, and to John Doreward, esq. in 1480, in whose family it remained till 1495; afterwards passing to the Wentworth family, it was sold, by sir John Wentworth, to George Coe, of Byham Hall, on whose decease, in 1625, it descended to his son, Isaac Coe, esq. of Lincoln's-inn, whose executors sold it, in 1649, to John Green, esq. recorder of London; after whose death it was sold, in 1668, to Andrew Harrington, of Gosfield, who sold it again, in 1669, to William, lord Grey, of Werke, from whom it passed with the other estates.

The site of the manor of Morells cannot now be ascertained, but it was on the borders of Wethersfield and Sible Hedingham; it was in the possession of John Doreward, esq. in 1420, and the proprietor of the estate of the same name, in 1476, is believed to have been his son. Morells.

* Arms of Shardlowe: Argent, a chevron gules, between thrée cross crosslets, fitché, azure.

BOOK II.

Ayle-
wards.
Biggs.

The manor of Aylewards was in the possession of Richard Ayleward in 1416, and, as the other estates, passed to the Wentworth family.

The manor of Biggs, in 1534, was in the possession of William Biggs, who is believed to have been of the family of Bigge, of Ridgwell and Toppesfield.

In 1541, it was holden under John Wentworth, esq. by Henry Parker; and, in 1592, was holden in mortgage of Peter White, by Matthew Alliston. This estate afterwards became the property of the Sparrow family.

Gosfield
Place.

The modern mansion-house of the manor of Biggs is Gosfield Place, the elegant seat of James Goodeve Sparrow, esq. It is a handsome building, inclosed in a park. The approach from the London road is over a light iron bridge, across a stream of water, and through a shrubbery. The mansion is on an elevated bank, the eastern front opening towards a spacious lawn, on either side of which rows of finely formed trees, of ample dimensions, with shrubs of varied appearance, supply shady and retired walks. Convenience and elegance are particularly observable on entering the hall, from which a geometrical stone staircase, of an elliptical form and very superior workmanship, conducts to the upper apartments, and to the drawing room, fitted up with various appropriate ornaments, particularly some pure white marble statuary, exquisitely beautiful, by Italian artists.

The balcony under the window of this apartment affords a pleasing prospect of rural Nature, with a view, though limited, highly interesting, over rising grounds, with forest trees of luxuriant growth, and woods and water, and the village church forming an interesting object in the distance.

Sparrow
family.

William Sparwe, or Sparrow, the ancestor of the family of that name, resident at Gosfield Place, which formerly gave the name to a mansion-house called Sparrows, in Sible Hedingham, was of West Harling, in Norfolk, and a person of some celebrity in the reign of Edward the third: Robert Sparrow, of Long Melford, in Suffolk, was his descendant. By his wife Marion he had Robert and William.

Robert Sparrow, esq. his eldest son and successor, was the first of the family that held the estate of Combewells, in the parish of Sible Hedingham. He married Agnes, sister of Roger Martin, esq. of Long Melford, by whom he had an only son, Thomas.

Thomas Sparrow, esq. succeeded to the family inheritance on the death of his father, toward the close of the reign of king Edward the fourth. His residence was at Bocking, where he died, at a very great age, about the year 1595. He had, by his wife Joan, two sons, John and Clement, and two daughters.

John, the eldest son, lived at Earl's Colne, and was steward to John de Vere, earl of Oxford. He married Agnes, daughter and co-heiress of John Worthie, esq. of Blamsters, by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Warner, esq. of Boys Hall, in Halstead. The offspring of this connexion were John, Anthony, Edward, Thomas,

William, and a daughter, Agnes. The second son, Anthony, was of Maldon, and he CHAP. V.
 had also an estate at Cowledge, in Suffolk. He died in 1567.

John, the eldest son, who succeeded his father, lived at Sparrows, in Sible Hedingham, and was descended, by the mother's side, from the Worthies, Warners, Helyons, Swinbornes, Botetourts, and Gernons, all ancient families, of whom the two last were of the old nobility. By his first wife he had Richard; Catharine, Anne, and Susan; and, by his second wife Joan, daughter of — Jackson, of this county, he had William, John, and Rachael. Richard, the eldest son, died before his father, and had three daughters, who died unmarried. (John, the second son by the second wife, was of Gestingthorp parsonage; Anne, daughter of Robert Buckminster, esq. of Poynton, in Lincolnshire, was his wife; and sir John Sparrow, of Gestingthorp, was his descendant.)

William Sparrow, of Sible Hedingham, the eldest surviving son, succeeded his father, who died in 1589: he married Joan, daughter of John Finch, of Gestingthorp, by whom he had three sons, John, William, and Joseph, and two daughters, Jane and Barbara; the last of whom was married to Thomas Ady, M.D. of Wethersfield. William, the second son, was a clothier, father of William, attorney-at-law, of Sible Hedingham, and died in 1648.

John, the eldest son, succeeded his father, on his death in 1611: he married Margaret, daughter of Stephen Cooke, of St. Edmundsbury; and had by her Margaret, married to John Wade, of Halstead: John and William, who both died in infancy, and a second John; also, Joseph and Benjamin, twins, who died infants, and Samuel, who married Elizabeth Newman, and died in 1696, leaving no surviving offspring.

John, the third but eldest surviving son, succeeded his father. His first wife was Anne, daughter of William Harrington, of Wallasses, in Great Maplestead, by whom he had John, James, and Margaret, married to Jerome Richardson, of Halstead. John Sparrow's second wife was Frances Harrington, widow, by whom he had no children. He died in 1686, and was buried in the church at Sible Hedingham.

John Sparrow, esq. the eldest son, succeeded; he was of Christ's College, Cambridge, in 1679, and about the same time admitted a member of Gray's-inn, and called to the bar in Michaelmas term 1686. His wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Clarkson, esq. of Langham Lodge, (one of the masters in chancery), by Dorothy, daughter of James Cardinal, of Langham Valley, son and heir of William Cardinal, esq. of Great Bromley. John Sparrow, esq. died in 1720, leaving an only daughter, named Elizabeth.

James, the second son of John Sparrow, esq. of Halstead, was born in 1665, and died in 1726. In 1690, he married Elizabeth Rose, daughter of John Rose, esq. of Morgan Hayes, in the county of Devon, and had by her John, who, in 1719, married Jane, only daughter and heiress of Robert Sparrow, esq. of Oulton, in Suffolk; by his wife, Jane Risby, of Thorp Morieux, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of Heigham Risby, esq. and Elizabeth his wife. He had by her James Sparrow, esq.

BOOK II. of Gosfield, who, in 1750, married Margaret Bernard, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of the rev. Thomas Bernard, rector of Bardfield, vicar of Earl's Colne, and rector of Wimbish, sinecure: he died in 1777, aged fifty-two; leaving Jane, married to Fiske Manistre, of Halstead; James, who died in infancy; Elizabeth, who died unmarried; rev. John Sparrow, born 1756, and died, unmarried, in 1786; Margaret and James, both of whom died infants; Sarah, born in 1760, married to the rev. C. E. Holden, of Great Cornard vicarage, Suffolk; Mary died an infant; Thomas Bernard Sparrow, born in 1760, died unmarried in 1793; Martha, born in 1768, married to the rev. N. J. Stubbin, of Higham rectory, Suffolk; James Goodeve Sparrow, esq. who married, in 1799, Anne, youngest of the three daughters and co-heiresses of James Crowe, esq. of Lakenham, Norwich; who dying in 1813, he married, in 1817, his second wife Dorothy, the eldest daughter of the rev. Basil Bury Beridge, of Algar Kirk, Lincolnshire. By his first wife, Mr. Sparrow has only two daughters now surviving, Margaret and Jane; and by his second, three sons, Henry Weare, Basil, and John Beridge, and two daughters, Dorothy Emma, and Annette Rosalie.*

After having some time remained divided, and in possession of several proprietors, the manors of Gosfield were united, and belonged successively to various families.

Rolfe
family.

Thomas Rolfe,† esq. had two wives, Margaret and Anne: by the first he had his daughter of the same name, and by the second, supposed to have descended from sir John Hawkwood, junior, he had his daughter Editha, who, from Hawkwood, inherited the manor of Bellowes, and ultimately became her father's heiress. She was first married to John Helyon, who in her right held, in this parish, the manor of Bellowes, of Hodynges, and Liston Hall: their two daughters were Philippa and Isabel. After the death of her husband, in 1449 or 1450, Editha was married to her second husband, John Green, who had been brought up to the profession of the law, under her father's tuition, and was the third son of John Green, of Widdington. He died in 1473, and his wife in 1498, having had, by this second husband, Elizabeth, Margery, and Agnes; the great estates of the families of Rolfe, Helyon, and Green, were divided between the daughters of John Helyon. Philippa, the eldest, married to sir Thomas Montgomery, having no children, her inheritance passed to her sister Isabel, one of the daughters of John Green; Elizabeth was an abbess at Dartford; Margery was married to Sir Henry Tey; Agnes was married to Sir William Finderne, and had with her Liston Hall; but, on the death of their grandson, Thomas Finderne, in 1523, it descended to Anne, the only daughter and heiress of Isabel: she was married to Humphrey Tyrell, esq. of Little Warley, third son of Sir John Tyrell, of Herons;

* The ancient arms of Sparrow were—Vert, a stag trippant, or: but they were altered by William Harvey Norroy, king at arms, into or, three roses proper. Crest: An unicorn's head argent, on a mural crown, or.

† Arms of Rolfe: Argent, three cornish choughs, sable.

and her only daughter, Anne Tyrell, by marriage, conveyed these and other great estates to her husband, sir Roger Wentworth; who, in her right, enjoyed here the manors of Bellowes, Hodings, Shardlowes, Park Hall, Mohermers; and Liston Crofts, Bastardby, Jordans, Broome, Burnhall, nineteen acres of wood in Hawkswood, and two acres called Milliners and Monstronys, lying in Gosfield, Halstead, and Sible Hedingham. He died in 1539, his wife having died before him, in 1534. Of their several children, sir John, the eldest son, inheriting these estates, married Anne, daughter of John Bettenham, esq. of Pluckley, in Kent. He died in 1567, and his lady in 1575. Their only daughter Anne, lady Maltravers, was their successor, at that time a widow. Her first husband, sir Hugh Rich, second son of sir Richard, lord chancellor baron Rich, died in 1554. Her second husband, Henry Fitz-Alan, lord Maltravers, having died at Brussels in the nineteenth year of his age, in 1556: and having had for her third husband William Dean, esq.; the lady Anne died in 1580, leaving no offspring by any of her husbands. John Wentworth, esq. of Little Horksley, the son of her uncle Henry, succeeded to her estates, and was the first of the family who resided at Gosfield: he received the honour of knighthood, and married two wives, but the maiden name of the second is not known: the first was Elizabeth, daughter of Christopher St. Laurence, baron of Howth, in Ireland. On his decease in 1588,* he was succeeded by his son, sir John Wentworth, knt. and bart.† who, being extravagant, wasted his inheritance; and, in 1622, vested the manors of Gosfield, Bellowes, Codham, Aylewards, Hodings, Withenfield, and Park Hall, in trustees, for the payment of his debts, when they were conveyed to sir John Gerard, knt.; and he, in 1629, sold them to Hugh Hare, lord Coleraine: who, in 1634, sold them, with the rectory and advowson of the vicarage, to Thomas Allen, esq. of Finchley, in Middlesex, from whom they were, in 1637, conveyed to Anne, widow of Dudley Carleton, viscount Dorchester, whose first husband was Paul, viscount Bayning; and this lady in 1638 had them, by deed, settled in trustees for her own life, remainder to her youngest daughter, Elizabeth Bayning, married to Francis, lord Dacre, of Hurst Monceaux; and as part of her portion they were, in 1641, settled on them both, in her right, for the term of their lives: remainder to the heirs of the said lord Dacre.

Sir John Wentworth, who had alienated these estates, married Katharine, daughter of sir Moyle Finch, knt. and bart. by whom he had a son, who died young, and four daughters; of these the two first died unmarried; Katharine, the third, was married to sir William Grey, of Chillingham, in Northumberland, created baron Grey, of Werke, in 1624. Lucy, the other daughter and co-heiress, was the second wife of

* He had the estates left by lady Maltravers, except that of Wiston, in Suffolk, and lands in Norfolk.

† He had another son and four daughters. Arms of Wentworth: Sable, a chevron, between three leopards' faces, or.

BOOK II. Thomas Wentworth, earl of Cleveland, who had by her Catharine, married afterwards to William Spencer, esq. of Cople, in Bedfordshire. Sir John Wentworth died in 1631, and his widow in 1639: on which event his two daughters and co-heiresses divided what remained unsold, namely, Monthermers, Park Hall, Aylewards, and Codham Hall; and, in 1653, Thomas Grey, esq. son and heir apparent of William lord Grey, bought of Francis lord Dacre and his lady, Elizabeth, the whole of that portion of these estates which was in their possession, which he, on his decease in 1654, left by will to his father, William lord Grey, who, in 1669, purchased Shardlowes of Andrew Harrington, esq. and of William Spencer, esq. and Katharine his wife, their respective share of the premises; and thus the capital estates of this parish became re-united in the noble family of Grey.

William lord Grey died in 1674, having had, by his lady Anne, daughter of sir John Wentworth, William, Thomas, both of whom died young, Ralph, and two daughters.* Ralph, the only surviving son and heir, married Katharine, daughter and heiress of sir Edward Forti, knt. of Harting, in Sussex, widow of Alexander, eldest son of John, lord Cokepeper, by whom he had Ford, Ralph, Charles, and one daughter: on his death, in 1675, his eldest son Ford, lord Grey, was his successor, created viscount lord Grey of Glendale, and earl of Tankerville in 1695; previous to which his two brothers had united with him in conveying the manors of Bellowes or Gosfield Hall, and Liston Hall, to sir Thomas Millington, knt. M.D. president of the college of physicians, who, dying in 1704, was buried in Wentworth chapel, in Gosfield church, leaving Thomas his son and heir, who, in 1708, was sheriff of the county, and, in 1710, one of the representatives in parliament for the borough of Great Bedwin. He died in 1714, without issue, by will leaving his estates to his two sisters, Anne and Mary; who, in 1715, sold them to John Knight, esq. This gentleman was born at Weymouth, and educated at Wadham College and Gray's Inn; elected member of parliament for St. Germans, in Cornwall, in 1710, 1713, and 1714, and for Sudbury in 1727, and was justice of peace and lord-lieutenant for the county of Essex. He married, first, Elizabeth Slaughtery of Cheney Court, Herefordshire; and to his second wife had Anne, daughter of James Craggs, esq. and widow of — Newsham, esq. His only son, John Knight, esq. dying in 1727, he left all his estates by will, to his wife Anne, previous to his decease in 1733; and she was afterwards married to Robert Nugent, esq. vice-treasurer of Ireland, and member of parliament for Bristol. Besides Bellowes and Liston Hall, he purchased, in 1716, the manors of Shardlowes, Harmers, Park Hall, and Aylewards, of William, lord North and Grey.

* These were, Elizabeth, who died unmarried, and Katharine, first married to sir Edward Moseley, bart. and afterwards to sir Charles North, knt. eldest son of Dudley, lord North; summoned to parliament in 1673, by the title of baron Grey of Rolleston; and had, probably with his lady, as they descended to his son William, the manors of Shardlowes, Harmers, Aylewards, and Park Hall.

An elegant modern mansion, named Cut Hedge, on the road from Gosfield Hall to Halstead, is the seat of Robert Wyatt, esq.

Cut
Hedge.
Church.

Inclosed within the park, and at a short distance eastward from Gosfield Hall, is the village church, dedicated to St. Katharine: it has a small chapel attached to it, originally built for a chantry, founded here by Thomas Rolfe, esq. for a priest to perform divine service, and to help to serve the cure; this building was repaired in 1560, by J. Rolfe, esq. and used as a cemetery for the family: adjoining to this erection is a private chapel, which has been used for a similar purpose by the Knights, and other families.

The vicarage was augmented, in 1720, by John Knight, esq. and Mrs. Anne and Mary Millington, in conjunction with queen Anne's bounty.

There are two ancient tombs in the chancel, one of which is to the memory of Thomas Rolfe, esq. buried in 1440, but the Latin inscription is not very intelligible in its composition; we however learn from it, that he left legacies for the support of persons afflicted with leprous diseases, and for marrying virgins.

Monu-
mental
inscrip-
tions.

The remains of John Green, who died in 1449, lie under a plain stone near the centre of the church.

There are several old tombs, from which the brass tablets were taken away in the time of the civil wars; among these are memorials of sir John Wentworth, who died in 145—, and also of his lady: of sir Roger Wentworth and his lady, who died between the years 1534 and 1539; and of lord Grey, who died in 1567.

In the chapel there is a large and elegant monument, with whole-length figures of various individuals of the Knight family; and an urn bears the following:

“ Joanni Knight, de Gosfield, in com. Essex, Armig. qui obiit Oct. 11, MDCCXXXIII, ætat L. Anna Craggs, Jacobi Craggs, Regi Georgii I. a secretis, soror, memoriæ et amori sacrum conjugi suo clarissimo H. S. P.”

In English:

“ To John Knight, of Gosfield, in the county of Essex, esq. who died Oct. 2, 1733, in the 50th year of his age: Anna Craggs, sister to James Craggs, privy counsellor to George I. in memory and for love of her dearest husband, has erected this stone.”

The elegant workmanship is by Scheemaker, under the direction of Alexander Pope, who also wrote the following elegiac inscription, which is on a white marble tablet.

‘ O! fairest pattern to a falling age,
Whose public virtue knew no party rage;
Whose private name all titles recommend,
The pious son, fond husband, faithful friend.
In manners plain, in sense alone refined;

Good without show, and without weakness kind:
To reasons even dictates ever true;
Calm to resolve, and constant to pursue:
In life with every social grace adorn'd,
In death by Friendship, Honour, Virtue, mourn'd.’

BOOK II.

There are inscriptions on the pedestal in memory of Robert, earl Nugent; lieutenant-colonel Edmund Nugent, his son; Margaret Nugent, his sister; and Anne Craggs, who was first married to James Newsham, esq.; secondly, to John Knight, esq. and lastly, to Robert Nugent, esq. afterwards earl Nugent. She died in 1756, aged fifty-nine.*

Charity.

In 1605, Edward Hunter left ten shillings yearly, for ever, out of the rent of his tenement of Hoblins, in Gosfield, to be distributed by the churchwardens to the poor of this parish, on Good Friday.

This parish, in 1821, contained five hundred and ninety-eight, and, in 1831, five hundred and twelve inhabitants.

STISTED.

Stisted.

The large retired village of Stisted is pleasantly situated near the river Blackwater, from which the grounds gradually rise, affording a wide expanse of prospect, as we proceed toward the great public road between Braintree and Halstead, from which this village is considerably distant. An open and well-cultivated district extends eastward to the extremity of the hundred of Lexden, toward the town of Coggeshall; to Braintree on the south; and the parish further extends west and northward to Bocking, Gosfield, and Halstead: it is computed to be thirty miles in circumference. The lands are in some parts hilly, in others quite low, with corresponding varieties of soil: there is a good proportion of woodland, and some hops are grown here. The name is supposed to be from the Saxon *ŕtið*, rough, or *ŕtize*, a path, and *ŕtede*, a place. It is written in records *Stigestede*, *Stiesteda*, *Stistede*, *Stited*, *Styes-tede*, and *Stystead*. This village is distant from Braintree two, and from London forty-two miles.

Stisted Hall.

The large and ancient manor-house of Stisted Hall is described as an "exceedingly good old mansion;" but this has been pulled down, and in its place, near the church, a very handsome modern edifice erected, under the superintendence of Mr. Penrice, of Colchester. The entrance front is ornamented with an elegant Ionic portico, and the entire building finished in the most improved style of modern architecture. This seat, from its surrounding shrubberies and plantations, commands, in various directions, extensive and interesting prospects.

The lordship of Stisted, with that of Little Coggeshall, being in the possession of Godwin, earl of Kent, and Wisgith, the widow of a noble Saxon named Elfwin, were given by them to the monks of Christchurch, in Canterbury, previous to the Norman conquest, in the year 1046; but, soon after that event, they were deprived of these possessions by the rapacity of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, and earl of Kent; at the great

* Near the entrance to this chapel there is a fine wax-work figure, as large as life, inclosed in a case, of Mrs. Knight, mother of John Knight, esq.





RECEIVED JAN 2 1960

trial on Pinenden Heath, they were, however, restored, and remained in possession of the prior and monks till the dissolution of the house in 1539, when king Henry the eighth made this manor part of the endowment of the dean and chapter of Canterbury. From this appropriation it again passed to the crown, in 1545, being assigned to the king, with other estates, in discharge of an annuity of £200, which this house was obliged to pay for the maintenance of scholars at Oxford and Cambridge; and in the same year it was granted to sir Richard Rich, who disposed of it to Henry Pigott, esq. of Abingdon, in Cambridgeshire; of whom it was purchased, in 1549, by Thomas Wiseman, of Northend, in Great Waltham, in whose family it continued till it was conveyed by lady Mary, the widow of sir Thomas Wiseman,* knt. of Rivenhall, to her second husband, sir Henry Appleton, bart. of Great Baddow; and, on his decease, to her third husband, Thomas Turner, who resided at Stisted Hall; and he, on the decease of the lady Mary in 1685, sold the estate to William Lingwood, esq. of Braintree; the progenitors of whose family were of the counties of Hereford and Gloucester. The first who settled in Essex was John Lingwood, resident at Braintree in 1571: he had three sons and two daughters; of whom Geoffrey, the eldest son, marrying Elizabeth, daughter of John Sibthorp, of Great Bardfield, had several sons and daughters, of whom William, his eldest son, was a student in Barnard's-inn, and, in 1629, made escheator-general for the county of Essex, to king Charles the first. He died in 1665, and his son William, by his first wife Mary, daughter of Thomas Wilson, of Jenkins, in this parish, was the purchaser of Stisted Hall: he was of Gray's-inn, bred to the law, and many years in the commission of the peace for the county. He had three wives, but died in 1700, without surviving offspring, leaving this estate to Elizabeth,† his third wife, daughter of John Jones, esq. of Chiswick; and this lady dying in 1719, bequeathed it to John Saville, esq. counsellor-at-law, who, dying a bachelor in 1735, left his brother, Samuel Saville, esq. of Colchester, his heir; who was one of the representatives in parliament for that borough in 1741, and, on his decease in 1763, left, by his wife Sarah, daughter of Edward Husbards, esq. of Little Horkesley, two daughters, his co-heiresses. The inheritance of Sarah was the manor of Great Fordham, with other possessions; and Anne had Stisted Hall, as part of her patrimony: in 1763, she was married to the rev. Charles Onley, from whom the family inheritance has descended to the present proprietor, Charles Saville Onley, esq.‡

Lingwood family.

The manor of Milles has the mansion near the road from the village to Blackwater, Milles.

* Arms of Wiseman: Per pale, or and azure, on a chevron two dragons enconjurant, counterchanged: on a chief ermine three cronels, argent.

† Arms of Lingwood: Azure, a saltier, or, charged with five annulets, gules between four fleur-de-lis of the second. Crest: On a torse, a lion's head ermine, couped, langued and eared gules, round the neck a mural crown.

‡ Arms of Saville: Argent, on a bend, sable, three owls of the field. Crest: on a wreath an owl, argent.

BOOK II.

BRAINTREE.

Braintree.

The populous and flourishing town of Braintree is pleasantly situated on the verge of Hincford, where it meets the northern extremity of Witham hundred; and on its opposite side, this town joins to Bocking, one of the most considerable of the villages of Essex.

What remains of the old town of Braintree, which forms the central part, consists of several streets irregularly formed, and inconveniently narrow; many of the houses are ancient, and some of them built of wood; but in the great thoroughfare street, and other parts of these combined towns, there are many capital houses belonging to opulent tradespeople; and handsome chapels, or meeting houses, for dissenters of various denominations; of which that of the Independents is a large and elegant structure of white brick and Bath stone, seventy-one feet long by fifty-three wide, estimated to contain fifteen hundred persons. It is at the entrance to the town from London, on the eastern side of the road, to which it forms an interesting ornament. The old chapel, built in 1788, and enlarged in 1813, was pulled down in 1832, and the present building erected. The site of the old chapel, together with a burying ground adjoining, is now inclosed with a brick wall six feet high, and forms a most safe and commodious cemetery. It is near the centre of the town, with two approaches to it, one from the principal street, and the other from the Rayne road.

In the wall is inserted a neat stone tablet, with the following inscription:

“Where this wall stands was the front of the Independent chapel, which was built A. D. 1788. In A. D. 1832, it was taken down, a new chapel erected at the south-west entrance to this town, on ground presented by the rev. J. Carter, and this wall built to enclose a burying ground for the use of the congregation assembling there.”

The name of Braintree is variously written in records Branketre, Branchetren, Branctoe, Braintree, Bromptre, Raines, Raine Magna, and Hamlettum de Magna Raines. In the survey of Domesday it has the two names of Raines and Branchetreu, of which one is Saxon, the other British; the meaning is defined to be either a “town upon a hill,” or “a town near a river;” which last applies with some propriety to this place, for on the southern side of it is Podd’s brook, and on its northern, the river Blackwater.

The lordship, named Raines in Domesday, included Braintree, and what constitutes the present parish of Raynes; the separation into Great and Little Raynes having taken place toward the close of the reign of king John, or the commencement of that of Henry the third.* Both in ancient and modern times, it has derived important

* Rayne Hatch, a small estate of forty acres, in Stisted, pays tithe to this parish.



Engraved by W. Adair

BRANTFORD, ESSEX.

Printed by J. W. Adair (to the Adair Press)

Printed by W. Adair

advantages from its situation on the great road from London into the counties of Suffolk and Norfolk; and, in 1199, William Santa Maria, bishop of London, obtained the grant of a market and an annual fair; and the vast crowds of pilgrims going to the shrines of St. Edmund, and our lady of Walsingham, proved a source of emolument to this place, which rapidly increased in population and importance; and at a later period, in the reign of queen Elizabeth, the Flemings, who fled from the persecution of the duke of Alva, introduced the woollen-cloth manufacture, which flourished here, and for several centuries proved the means of greatly enriching the inhabitants. This business has now become extinct, and is succeeded by the silk manufacture, which employs a large portion of the labouring population: the straw-plat manufacture has also been introduced.

It has a market on Wednesdays, well supplied with all kinds of necessities, and at which considerable quantities of corn, malt, and hops, are sold by sample. There are also two fairs annually, on the 8th of May* and the second of October.

The petty sessions for the southern division of the hundred are holden here.†

From Chelmsford this town is distant eleven miles, and from London forty.

In the time of the Confessor, most of the lauds of this parish belonged to William, bishop of London, a Norman, who came into England with Emma, wife of king Etheldred, mother of king Edward, by whom he was promoted to that see in 1051. Upon the reconciliation of the king with earl Godwin, who hated the Normans, Robert, archbishop of Canterbury, and this William, bishop of London, and Ulf, bishop of Lincoln, effected their escape from the fury of the earl, and retired into Normandy: two of them died abroad, but the bishop of London returned, and at the time of the survey had a portion of these lands; the other two portions being in the possession of Hamo Dapifer and Richard, son of Gilbert, earl of Clare. On the death of bishop William, in 1079, the inhabitants of London erected a monument over his remains, with an inscription, expressing their gratitude for his intercession with the Conqueror in their behalf; for, by his influence and authority, they enjoyed great and important liberties and immunities.‡

The largest of the three manors or lordships of Braintree, was that which belonged to the bishops, who had a palace, which was also the manor-house, and stood on the side of the hill that rises above Braintree-mill, near the site of the present parsonage-house. No vestige of the palace remains, but the hill is believed to be the same as is mentioned in the survey. The bishops of London retained this lordship till Nicholas

Bishops
manor.

* The fair in May was procured for the town by Herman Olmius, esq. in the reign of queen Elizabeth.

† The mode of parish government by a "select vestry," was introduced here at an unknown remote period; and as early as 1584 they were called the twenty-four headboroughs, governors of the town, and town magistrates.

‡ Bishop Godwin's Catalogue of Bishops, and Stowe's Survey of London, ed. 1720, book v. p. 347.

BOOK II.

Ridley disposed of it, by the name of the manor of Branketry, to king Edward the sixth, in 1550; and that prince, in the same year, made a grant of it, with the advowson of the vicarage of Coggeshall, to lord Rich, in whose family it remained till Charles, earl of Warwick, in 1673, dying without issue, the large inheritance of the family was divided among his sisters and aunts, and this lordship became the property of his sister, lady Frances, wife of Nicholas, son and heir of sir Francis Leake, lord Deincourt and earl of Scarsdale; who, on his decease, in 1680, left his son Robert, the third earl of this family, and a younger son named Rich, and Mary. The earl married Mary, daughter and co-heiress of sir John Lewis, knt. and bart. of Ledstone, in Yorkshire, and had by her an only daughter, who died in infancy. He sold this estate to Herman Olmius, esq. ancestor of the family of lord Waltham,* and it continued in the possession of the lady dowager till her decease.

Nayling-
hurst.

The manor-house of Naylinghurst is about a mile distant, westward from the town, on Braintree Green, not far from Felsted Common: it is vulgarly named Nannegale. This manor was anciently holden of the honour of Hedingham Castle, by the service of one knight's fee. It was in the possession of Stephen de Haia, in the reigns of Richard the first and king John, and till 1245, when it passed to Simon de Rennes, succeeded, in 1268, by his son Robert, followed by Walter de Rennes: afterwards, it was in the possession of Roger de Naylingherst, succeeded by John Oxeneye, John Naylingherst, prior of Dunmow, and William at Parke, who died in 1358. Thomas Naylingherst held the estate under Thomas, earl of Oxford, who died in 1370.

The family of Naylingherst derived their honours and riches from Robert, son of John Naylingherst, a clergyman of learning and celebrity in the reign of Edward the third, who at the same time held the rectories of Stisted, Sible Hedingham, and Great

* Herman Olmius, esq. of St. Peter le Poor, London, married Judith, heiress of John Drigue, esq., by whom he had six daughters, all of whom died young, except Judith; and four sons, of whom John, Herman, and Driguey, arrived at the age of maturity. In 1706, Bishops manor was settled upon John, the eldest son, who married Elizabeth, heiress of Mr. Thomas Clarke, merchant, of the Clarkes of St. Ives, in Huntingdonshire. He was high sheriff in 1707, and justice of the peace and deputy-lieutenant for the county; and, on his decease in 1731, was deputy-governor of the Bank of England. His only son, John, was his successor; who married Anne, daughter of sir William Billers, knt. alderman of London, by whom he had John Drigue, and Elizabeth. In 1762, he was created baron Waltham, of Philipstown, in the kingdom of Ireland, and died the same year; and John Drigue Olmius, the second lord Waltham, died without issue in 1764. Arms of Olmius, lord Waltham: Party per fesse, azure and argent, a fesse embattled and counter embattled, or; in chief of six points argent; in base, on a mount, vert, an elm tree, proper. The family used to quarter, second: sable and argent; in chief a deer's head couped, azure: over the ears a ducal coronet, argent. In base five bezants, or, three and two, Reinstein. Three: azure a vine proper, fructed argent, broused on by a goat erect, argent, hooped and horned, or, cappre. Fourth: sable, a dexter hand proper, issuing out of a cloud proper, grasping five stalks of bearded wheat, or, Ger-verdiney. Fifth: sable, an herring, or, in bend, Drigue. Crest. On a wreath, a demi-Moor proper, in armour; head escarsoned, or, in his ears a pendant, argent; on a belt, or, a fesse embattled as above, between two strips of bays proper. Motto, "Meritez."

Leighs. The family was ennobled by the marriage of Catharine, daughter and heiress of sir Hugh Badewe, (niece of Richard Badewe, chancellor of Cambridge in 1326, and first founder of Clare Hall, at that time called University Hall,) to Thomas, son of Thomas de Naylingherst, in the time of Edward the third. John Naylingherst added the manor of Glanville to this estate, by marrying Alice, daughter of Geoffrey Glanville of Felsted; he died in 1362, and his son and successor, Thomas, in 1409; succeeded by Hugh, who, on his decease in 1493, left Clement his heir.* In 1636, this estate was in the possession of Henry Haselfoot, succeeded by a family of the name of Bridges; afterwards by Rowland Holt, esq. brother to lord chief justice Holt. The next possessor of this estate was sir William Smith, knt.

The manor-house of Marks is about a mile from the town, on the north side of the road to Coggeshall; it was in the possession of a thane named Goding, in the time of Edward the Confessor, and at the survey was holden under Hamo Dapifer, by Ralph de Marci, from whom its name is derived: it continued in this family till the reign of Edward the third. In 1254, William de Mark was presented at Chelmsford and fined, because he held a knight's fee here without receiving the honour of knighthood. Richard, his son, was his successor, followed by John; and, in 1347, this estate was conveyed by John de Bocking to sir John de Bouchier, knt., of the very ancient and noble family of the Bouchiers of Stansted Hall, in Halstead. On the attainure of William, earl of Essex and marquis of Northampton, on account of the unfortunate lady Jane Grey, this estate was forfeited to the crown, and, in 1555, was granted, by queen Mary, to sir Robert Rochester, comptroller of her household; who gave it, by will, to the priory of Shene, in Surrey; and, on the suppression of that house, it was restored to the marquis of Northampton; on whose decease, in 1571, and that of lady Anne, the marchioness, in 1572, this manor returned to the crown, and was granted by queen Elizabeth to Walter Devereux, viscount Hereford, whom she created earl of Essex in 1572; he being great grandson to John Devereux and Cicely, sister of Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, cousin and next heir to the said lady Anne. Sir Walter was made K.G. and marshal of Ireland, and died at Dublin in 1576, leaving, by the lady Lettice, daughter of sir Francis Knolles, several sons and daughters, of whom Robert, his successor to the earldom, was the envied and unfortunate favourite of the queen; falling a sacrifice to the malice and treachery of his enemies, he was beheaded in 1600: but his father, previous to his decease, had sold this manor and estate to Ralph Wiseman, esq. of Rivenhall, son of John Wiseman, esq. of Wimbish. Richard, Thomas, and Robert were the surviving progeny of Ralph Wiseman, on his decease in 1594, of whom Richard, the eldest, succeeded to the estate, which remained in the family till Elizabeth, widow of sir William Wiseman, knt. and bart. in conjunction

* Arms of Naylingherst: Gules, a cross engrailed, or.

BOOK II. with Samuel Wiseman, her husband's nephew and heir, sold it, in 1696, to Thomas Western, esq. of Rivenhall, who gave it to Robert, his youngest son; from whom it passed to his daughter Sarah, and to Thomas Mashiter, yeoman; and afterwards to the Ruggles family.

Sandpit
Leet.

The Clare family held possessions here in the reign of William the conqueror, as appears from the record of Domesday, where they are entered as encroachments on the king's demesnes; yet they were afterwards allowed to retain these lands as an appendage of the honour of Clare, and part of the dutchy of Lancaster. The court-leet belonging to this lordship used to meet annually on the 22d of September, when a constable was chosen, whose jurisdiction was limited by the boundaries of what has been named the Sandpit leet; it lies on the north-west side of the town, beginning at a pond near the commencement of the road to Rayne, and from thence extending to the Boar's Head.

Hubbalds
and Mal-
lands.

Lands in this parish, named Hubbalds and Mallands, were part of the gift of Ralph Diggen, esq. in 1649, to the master and fellows of Clare Hall, in Cambridge.

Family of
Hawkins.

The Hawkins family had formerly large possessions here, which ultimately became the property of Frances, daughter of Robert Hawkins, the only surviving son of John Hawkins, esq. alderman of London, who died in 1633: she conveyed the estate to her husband, sir John Dawes, knt. and bart. of Putney, by whom she had Robert, John, William, and Elizabeth, wife of Peter Fisher, D.D. Sir Robert Dawes succeeded his father, and dying without issue, as did also his brother John, sir William Dawes, the youngest brother, succeeded to the title; he was dean of Bocking, master of Catharine Hall, in Cambridge, bishop of Chester, and archbishop of York. He married Frances, one of the sisters and co-heiresses of sir Robert Darcy, bart. of Great Bracksted, by whom he had sir Darcy Dawes, and a daughter married to sir William Milner, bart. of Yorkshire.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is a spacious structure of flint and stone, with lofty north and south aisles, a nave, and chancel. The tower is apparently the most ancient part of the building, and is surmounted by a spire, comparatively modern. This edifice is believed to occupy the site of an ancient camp, and is on the highest part of the town. There was a parish church erected here of much greater antiquity than the present building, having been founded a considerable time before the Norman conquest. It was situated near the palace, about half a mile from the present church.* A clause in the will of John de Naylingherst, dated 1349, informs us that he bequeathed a black bullock toward the work of the church, and this is considered decisive evidence of the erection of this building about that time. The arms in the church of most of the neighbouring gentry who were then living, is a further

* Some remains of this building are yet to be seen, in which there are three very narrow lancet-shaped windows, in what appears to have been the east wall of the chancel.

confirmation that this structure was erected toward the close of the reign of Edward the third. Allowing these inferences, yet it is evident that numerous additions and alterations have been made in this building; of these, the most ancient is the north aisle, and the period of its erection is not known; but, by an old ledger belonging to the vestry, we are informed that the new porch was added in 1522, and the aisle is there called the "new isle." The south aisle is stated to have been erected in 1532; and when the old shingled roof was taken down, and the walls raised a story higher, and covered with lead, Henry Eve, who died in 1535, is recorded to have laid the first stone. In addition to large contributions toward the expenses of these improvements, further assistance was derived from the acting of three plays in the church: the first was St. Swithin, in 1523; the second, St. Andrew, in 1525; and the last of these performances was named Placy Dacy, or St. Eustacy, which was acted in 1534. It is remarkable, that, besides pleasing the eye and amusing the mind, ample provision was made on these occasions for satisfying the appetite, of which a very particular account is given in the register books. After the reformation, the churchwardens lent out the players' garments, and at last sold them for fifty shillings, and also sold the books for twenty shillings.

The patronage of this church was in the prior and convent of the monastery of the Charter-house, in 1416, and was appropriated to that house by Richard Clifford, bishop of London, reserving, in this appropriation, six shillings and eight pence per annum to himself and his successors, which has continued to be paid to the present time. After successively passing to various proprietors, the advowson was sold to Richard, lord Rich, who, when he founded a hospital and free-school at Felsted, gave something to each of them out of this rectory; which, on the division of the earl of Warwick's estate, formed part of the share of the earl of Nottingham, and was held by lease for life, by the vicars of Braintree, who pay out of it yearly to the almshouse and free-school at Felsted, the sum of thirty pounds one shilling and eight pence in money, sixteen quarters of wheat, and the same quantity of malt.

The advowson of the vicarage was conveyed to the earl of Scarsdale, and afterwards became vested in lord Waltham. •

In 1725, the rev. Stephen Newcomen, the incumbent at that time, gave two hundred pounds, to which the same sum was added from queen Anne's bounty, for the augmentation of this living.

In records of the date of 1364, an account is found of a chapel, near the old church, for a chantry priest to sing mass in daily. It was of the foundation of the bishops of London; was dedicated to St. John the Baptist; had a yard, two messuages in Black Notley, four messuages in Braintree, and a barn, included in its endowment; all which, with many others, were granted to Thomas Golding. Chapel.

In this church there were twelve obits, and also several gilds, or fraternities; par-

Obits,
Gilds, &c.

BOOK II. ticularly those of Jesus; of St. John the Baptist; of Crispin and Crispina; a plow gild; a torch gild; and a gild of women of our lady's-lights, to which belonged an alderwoman and two wardens.

Inscriptions.

A mural marble monument in the chancel is inscribed to the memory of John Hawkins, esq. alderman of London in 1623, who died in 1633.

On a brass plate against the wall of the chancel, above an altar tomb, inclosed in a grate, is the following inscription:—

“ This grate was ordered to be set up by the last will and testament of Samuel Collins, late doctor of physick, eldest son of Mr. Samuel Collins, here under buried, who served about nine years as principal physician to the great Czar, emperor of Russia, and after his return from thence, taking a journey into France, died at Paris, Oct. 26, 1670, being the fifty-first of his age.

“ *Mors requies peregrinantibus.* ”

There is an inscription on the south side of the tomb, which informs us that the rev. Samuel Collins, father of the abovenamed gentleman, and many years vicar of this church, died on the second of May, 1667, and was buried here.

Charities. In 1533, John Payne left a tenement in this town called Copped Hall, for the relief of the poor.

In 1565, John Surinam left one hundred pounds for the erection of four almshouses. This benefaction was enlarged by an additional donation from Robert, lord Rich, of a piece of waste ground; and by a further grant of land from Robert, earl of Warwick; on this inclosure a house was erected, in 1630, called “The Hospital,” for the entertainment and support of poor children and poor people.

Alice Griggs, widow, in 1579, left a piece of arable land of four acres, and one acre of meadow, the annual profits to be disposed of to the poor, at the discretion of the churchwardens.

In 1626, John Lawrence gave an orchard, rented at four nobles per annum, to the poor of this parish. This was afterwards exchanged for a field of greater value.

This parish receives a portion of the interest of two thousand eight hundred pounds, left to the poor of five different parishes, by Henry Smith, esq.

In 1630, Thomas Trotter, a native of this place, left a house, barn, and four acres of arable land, at that time of the yearly value of five pounds ten shillings, of which four pounds was to be annually given, by two payments, at two shillings each, to twenty aged poor; the remainder of the money to be expended in the repairs of the church, and disposed of as specified in the will. In 1651, the tenement on the premises was burnt down, which reduced this charity to four pounds per annum.

In 1631, Thomas Hobbes, esq. of Gray's-inn, gave a farm in Braintree called Brooms, of the income of which six pounds per annum were to be given to the vicar of Braintree; five pounds per annum for a catechising lecture in Katharine Hall, in

Cambridge; and the remainder to two or three poor students in Cambridge, either in Katharine Hall, or Emanuel College. CHAP. V.

In 1637, Mark Mott, ancestor of the family of that name, of Shalford, gave a house and a small field, at that time of the yearly value of forty shillings, the income to be disposed of in shirts and smocks, of cloth, at twelve pence a yard, to be given to the poor of this parish. His son, Adrian Mott, also gave, in 1638, one hundred pounds into the hands of the minister and the rest of the vestry, desiring that land might be purchased with it, as soon as conveniently it might; and in the meantime that it should be improved to the best advantage, and the profits disposed of yearly, on the fifth of November, as his father had directed in his will. But the donor lived to see the greater part of this money lost, by those to whom it was lent.

In 1640, sir Stephen White gave an annuity of six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence, out of a farm in Black Notley, to purchase shifts to be given to six poor women of Braintree, on All Saints day, of the value of fourteen shillings each; and for each of them four two-penny loaves of wheaten bread, upon the first Sunday in every month in the year; and to the upper churchwarden, one shilling and four pence.

In 1691, Isaac Skinner, of Wivenhoe, but born in this parish, left the reversion of his house in Wivenhoe to the churchwardens and overseers of the poor there, upon condition that they should pay yearly to the churchwardens of Braintree, the sum of four pounds, for the use of the poor of this parish, for ever.

In 1698, Henry Summers, a native of this town, gave an annuity of seven pounds ten shillings out of his manor of Gains, in Huntingdonshire, with which five pounds' worth of bread is to be purchased and given to the poor of Braintree, on the 4th of February (being the day of his baptism) yearly, for ever: the remaining fifty-two shillings to be given to the minister and churchwardens, to be expended in a good dinner, or otherwise, as they shall think fit.

In 1702, James Coker gave out of a farm at Stoke Neyland, in Suffolk, an annuity of ten pounds, for teaching ten poor children of Braintree, English and Latin in the parish school.

In 1707, John Aylett gave the reversional moiety of a house and land in Bocking, to the poor of this parish for ever.

In 1802, a charity was established here, supported by subscription, to clothe and instruct sixty poor children. The subscription has been greatly enlarged, and the number of children increased since its commencement.

An urn filled with Roman coins was found, some time ago, in grounds belonging to High Garret; of these a considerable number, chiefly of the emperor Vespasian, were carefully preserved by Mr. Jonathan Reeve, at that time proprietor of the estate; but many were dispersed and lost through the ignorance and carelessness of the workmen.

In 1828, as a gardener, employed by Mrs. J. Tabor, was at work near that part of the road which separates Bocking from Braintree, he discovered a very large quantity

Roman
antiqui-
ties.

BOOK II.

of Roman coins, in a particular part of the inclosure, where many single coins had been at different times found, which had induced Mrs. Tabor to request to be informed if further discoveries should be made; and on this occasion a half-peck measure was filled and carried to her, and sold for three guineas, though the workman had jestingly asked fifty pounds for them. On hearing of this occurrence, the person who transmitted the account to the Gentleman's Magazine,* repaired to the gardener and secured twenty-six of the coins, and the bottom of the pot which had contained them; and, on going to the spot, found six more. Many other persons in Bocking and Braintree have also been supplied with considerable numbers. The whole were at first believed to be copper coins, but have since been ascertained to be many of them silver. Mrs. Tabor's collection amounted to upwards of two thousand two hundred, and the whole are believed to have exceeded three thousand. The following are the only letters legible on the inscriptions:

“... VALERIANVS P F AVG... DIV... MARIANA... GALLIENVS AVG...
 IMP GALLIENVS AVG... CAL SALONINA AVG... IMP C VICTORINVS P F
 AVG... VICTORINVS P F (*left side face*) IMP C POSTVMVS P F AVG...
 IMP MARIVS P F AVG... IMP CLAVDIVS... IMP MACI QVINTI LVS...
 IMP C CLAVDIVS AVG... IMP FVL QUIETVS P F AVG... IMP C TETRICVS
 P F AVG... TETRICVS C AVG...”

The coin or medal of Mariana[†] is a beautiful silver one, in a high state of preservation; she was the second wife of the emperor Valerian, and it appears to have been struck on the occasion of her marriage. The obverse bears the head of the empress, the reverse (as is supposed) a peacock with a cupid—legend, CONSECRATIO.

Braintree is situated on the Roman road leading from Verulam (St. Alban's) to Camulodunum (Colchester), being about fifteen miles from the latter; the turnpike road intersects it in one place, and further on from Colchester divides it from the village of Bocking. About two or three years ago there were found, near the confines of Bocking, and where it adjoins Braintree, three or four urns, which are said to have been Roman; the largest of them contained a small black vessel, which the workmen declared had no aperture; their curiosity induced them to break it open, but it did not appear to contain any thing; the urns were all broken by the workmen, but their fragments were collected, and are preserved by Mrs. Tabor: those of the largest are capable of being placed and tied together, so as to exhibit the original form. There were found in the urns fragments of bones, apparently human, the most perfect specimen of which seems to have been part of a skull.

There have been found at Stisted (which joins to Bocking and Braintree, and is still nearer to Colchester,) several urns, stated to have been decidedly Roman. A Roman coin of the emperor Carausius, of great rarity, has also recently been found

* Gentleman's Mag. vol. xcviil. part i. p. 163.

in high preservation, in this neighbourhood, at Debenham, in Suffolk: it bears on one side the effigies of the emperor, crowned with laurel, circumscribed IMP. CARAUSIUS P. F. A. On the reverse, the emperor extending his right hand toward a female figure (Britannia) both holding a standard, circumscribed, "EXPECTATE VENI." Carausius reigned in Britain anno 294. The coin is now in the collection of a gentleman at Woodbridge.

Some time ago, a coin or medal of Antoninus was found at Braintree, in excellent preservation.

Samuel Dale, M.D. an antiquary and botanist, born in 1669, was originally an apothecary at Braintree: in 1730, he became a licentiate of the royal college of physicians, in London, and a practitioner at Bocking, where he died in 1739, aged eighty. He published a *Pharmacopœia* and *Materia Medica*, of considerable celebrity, which passed through numerous editions: Silas Taylor's history and antiquities of Dover Court, with an appendix, topographical, dynastical, and political; first collected by Silas Taylor, alias Dorneville, and now much enlarged, with notes and observations, and cuts; 4to. London, 1732: and wrote numerous papers in the *Philosophical Transactions*, on medical and philosophical subjects, and on natural history.

In 1821, this parish contained two thousand nine hundred and eighty-three, and; in 1831, three thousand four hundred and twenty-two inhabitants.

BOCKING.

The parish of Bocking extends from Braintree on the south to its junction with Gosfield northward, and from Stisted eastward to Pantfield on the west; it is intersected by the river Blackwater, which puts several corn-mills and the machinery of some silk factories in motion. The village is one of the largest in Essex, principally consisting of one long street, extending into the heart of the town of Braintree: it contains many well-built houses, and has places of worship for the Society of Friends, and dissenters of other denominations.

The name is supposed to be formed of the two Saxon words, *Boc*, a beech tree, and *ing*, a pasture, or meadow; or, in the opinion of some etymologists, it has been so named because it was *bock* land, or free land, holden by deed, as the tenure of socland was by service.* In records the name is written *Boccinge*, *Boccinges*, *Bochinges*, *Bockyng*, and *Boquhing*. The agricultural character of this district is described as in some instances better adapted for meadow ground than arable, some of the lands of a shallow staple, the substratum a clay, rendered whitish from a mixture of chalk-stones.†

Two Saxons, named Æthelric and Leofwine, were in possession of this parish in the time of king Æthelred, whose reign commenced in 978; and these noble thanes,

* See Spelman's Glossary.

† Average annual produce per acre of Bocking and Braintree—wheat 24, barley 30, oats 30 bushels.

BOOK II. in 1006, gave it to the priory of St. Saviour, in Canterbury, for the support of the monks.* This monastery was what originally formed the cathedral church, founded by St. Augustin, and served by monks: in 1011, it was burnt down by the Danes, and the new erection, by Lanfranc, was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, as appears from the record of Domesday.

Barker
family.

After the suppression of religious houses, it was granted, in 1540, to Roger Wentworth and his wife Alice,† and their heirs; their son John was their successor, and died in 1603. Roger, the son of Edward, was next in succession; from whom the estate passed to sir Robert Barker, created K. B. at the coronation of king James the first. He married first, Judith, daughter of George Stoddard, esq. of Mottingham, in Kent; his second lady was Susan, daughter of sir John Crofts, kut. of Saxham, in Suffolk; by the first he had two sons and a daughter, of whom the eldest son was the ancestor of sir John Baker, bart. By his second, he had his son sir Thomas, who succeeded to this estate, and five sons and five daughters, of whom Elizabeth was married to Roger Wentworth; and sir Thomas, the eldest son, was of Basford, in Suffolk, and possessed of this estate, succeeded by his son William, created a baronet in 1676, by the style of sir William Barker, of Bocking Hall.‡ Being bred to the law, and made a judge, he mortgaged his estate here to Prisca Cobourne, widow, of Stratford-le-bow, and retired into Ireland, where, on his decease, he left, by his lady Elizabeth, daughter of Jerome Alexander, of Norfolk, three sons, William, Jerome, and Robert: of these, the eldest, sir William Barker, bart. was seated at Ringsall Hall, in Suffolk, where his son of the same name and title was his successor.

The widow, Prisca Cobourne, mortgagee of this estate, on application to chancery, after the decease of sir William, obtained possession of the premises, which, with her other estates, she made the foundation of a noble charity for the relief of poor widows and children of clergymen of the church of England.

The present possessor of this estate is John Thomas Nottidge, clerk, M. A. who inherits it from his father, Thomas Nottidge, esq. late high sheriff of Essex. The mansion-house is a capital new building, near the church: George Nottidge, esq. has lately rebuilt Bocking Fulling-mill House, in an elegant style of modern architecture.

Dore-
wards.

Of the several subordinate manors, that of Dorewards has the mansion pleasantly

* The grant began in these words: Ego Æthelric et Leofwina, annuente Deo et Rege Atheldredo, donamus terram juris nostri nomine Boccinges, et Mersega, ad Ecclesiam sci Salvatoris in Dorobernia ad victum Monachorum ibidem Deo servientium pro salute anime mee, &c. Subscribed by king Æthelred, Arp. Alfric, Alfege bishop of Winchester.—*From a manuscript in Corpus Christi College library, Cambridge.* Mersega was the manor of Bocking Hall, in West Mersey.

† He was either the youngest son of sir Thomas Wentworth, who died in 1551, or the son of sir Roger, of Codham Hall.

‡ Arms of Barker: Party per fesse nebulée, azure and sable, three martlets, or; with a canton ermine. Crest: On a wreath or and azure, a bear sejant, or, collared sable.

situated on an acclivity, with a fine open prospect southward: it is a short distance eastward from the church, near the road from High Garret to Braintree, and was new-built by Edward Thorsby, in 1579. This manor was holden of the paramount manor by fealty and rent.

Robert de Bocking held this possession in the reign of king John and Henry the third: his son, Osbert, was the father of Richard, from whom, in 1316, the estate was conveyed to Ralph, son of Roger Doreward, of Bocking.

Alwine Doreward was the father of Thomas and Roger, who lived in this parish in the time of Henry the third; of these, the former was the father of Ralph, the purchaser of this estate; his two wives were named Cicely and Agnes: by the first of these he had William and Roger, of whom William was his successor; who, by his wife Joan, only daughter and heiress of John Olivers, of Stanway, had John; who had, by his wife Katharine, a son and successor of the same name, born in 1390; he had also Joan, married to Richard Waldegrave: Eleanor, wife of John Knivet, esq. and Elizabeth, married to — Chamberlain. Having made great additions to his patrimonial estate, he died in 1420. John Doreward, the son, acquired celebrity in the legal profession; was speaker of the house of commons in 1414, and sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1425 and 1432. He married Blanch, eldest daughter of sir William de Coggeshall, by whom he had John, William, Richard, Ralph, and Elizabeth. On his decease, in 1462, he, by will, divided his extensive possessions among his children. John, the eldest son, married Anne, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Urswick, esq. by whom he had John, who succeeded his father on his death in 1746, and who, dying in 1480, without issue, was succeeded by his uncle, William Doreward, esq. who married Margery, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Roger Arsick, of South-acre, in Norfolk, by whom he left his son and heir, John; and Elizabeth, married to Thomas Fotheringay, esq. of Woodrising, in Norfolk; the son resided at Spain's Hall, in Great Yeldham, where, having married Margery, daughter of John Nanton, esq. he died in 1495, leaving no issue; the three daughters of his sister Elizabeth being his co-heiresses: these were Margaret, wife of Nicholas Beaupre, of Norfolk; Ellen, of Henry Thorsby, esq.; and Christian, married to John de Vere, afterwards the fourteenth earl of Oxford.* On the termination of the line of Doreward, their extensive possessions, consisting of above twenty lordships and capital estates in this county, with others in various parts of the country, were partitioned out to the co-heiresses, and conveyed to the families of Beaupre, Thorsby, and Vere; but, soon after the decease of Margaret Beaupre, in 1513, her share came into the family of her sister, Ellen Thorsby, and was the property of Thomas Thorsby, esq. the eldest son of Henry, who had these possessions at the time of his decease in 1532.

Doreward family.

* Arms of Doreward: Ermine, a chevron charged with three crescents.

BOOK II.

Thorsby
family.

Ankfrith, a Danish nobleman, and the ancestor of the Thorsby family, flourished about the year 1014, in the time of king Sweyn, and had vast possessions in the northern parts of the kingdom. They derive their surname from a manor or village in the north riding of Yorkshire. Of this family, Edward Thorsby, esq. was the first who resided at Dorewards Hall, which he possessed at the time of his decease, in 1602, with a park and several parcels of land. He left, by his wife Mary, daughter of Philip Bedingfield, esq. Christopher, John and Edward, twins, and six daughters. The eldest son, Christopher, succeeded his father, and married Audrey, daughter of Nicholas Tiperley, esq. of Hintlesham, in Suffolk; he had by her William, Henry, John, Edward, and three daughters; and, on his decease in 1626, was succeeded by William, his eldest son, who married Elizabeth, daughter of William Perte, of Middlesex, by whom he had Christopher, William, Edward, Tindal, John; Elizabeth, Anne, Penelope, Mary, and Sarah.* Christopher Thorsby, the eldest son, had four wives, of whom the first was Jane, daughter of Thomas Smyth Neville, esq. of Holt, in Leicestershire, by whom he had his only son Thomas. His second wife was of a family of the name of Dove; but his two other wives are not mentioned by name.† In 1637, he sold this and the manors of Bradfords and Harries to Richard Eden, LL. D. whose son or grandson sold them to John le Motte Honeywood, esq. of Markshall, whose descendants have retained possession to the present time.

Bradfords

The manorial estate named Bradfords is near Braintree, on the south side of the river Blackwater. From ancient deeds, it appears to have belonged to the family of Bradford as early as the reign of king John; from which it passed to John Fullere, in 1420; and, in 1476, to John Doreward, who united it to the manor of that name.

Harries.

The mansion-house of Harries is about a quarter of a mile from the bridge, on the road from Halstead to Braintree. Its name is believed to be derived from Henry, or Harry de Bocking, who owned it in 1315, and on whose decease it was devised to William de Goldington. In 1352, it was conveyed, by John de Goldington, to Alban Frere, whose son and heir, John Frere, sold it to John Doreward, esq. and, in 1476, John, the son of John Doreward, died in possession of this estate, described as two tenements, with a water-mill and two hundred acres of meadow and arable land, including Harries, in Bocking, and Renkyns, in Bocking and Stisted. This estate was afterwards united to Dorewards Hall.

Fryers.

The mansion of Fryers is in Bradford-street, on the road to Braintree. Alban Frere, or Fryer, is supposed to have been the origin of the name of this manor; John, his son, married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Powers, of Witham, and had by her Elizabeth, his only daughter, who, by marriage, conveyed this estate to William

* Mary was married to Rice Gwyn, serjeant-at-law; Philippa, to John St. John, esq. of Hatfield Peverel; Elizabeth, to Edward Dennys, esq.; Katharine, to John Smith, clerk; and Sarah died unmarried.

† Arms of Thorsby: Argent, a chevron between three lionsels rampant, sable.

Brokeman, esq.;* and their son, John Brokeman, esq. married Florence St. Leger, on whose death, in 1500, he was succeeded by Thomas, his son, who, by his wife, of the maiden name of Rochester, had John, Emerias, Abigail, Anne, Agnes, and Frances. John, the eldest son, was living in 1544.

In 1625, Jonas Windle, clothier, held this estate of the manor of Bocking Hall, and, in 1632, his son Richard sold it to Hercules Arthur; whose brother, John Arthur, D.D. of Clapham, in Surrey, was his heir. He married Anne, daughter of Miles Corbet, esq. (one of those who signed the warrant for the execution of Charles the first) and had by her John, Henry killed in a duel, Anne, Elizabeth, and Dorothy.

In 1696, John, the heir, sold the estate to John Maysent, of Bocking: he was the son of John Maysent, of Justices, in Finchingfield, by his wife Judith, daughter of Henry Pye and Margaret his wife, sister to Hercules Arthur. John Maysent married Judith, daughter of Joseph Maysent, of Hatfield Peverel: he died in 1723, having had three sons, who died young, and six daughters. By his will, he left this estate to Jeremiah, his younger brother.† Of the daughters of John Maysent, Susannah was married to the rev. John Palmer, of Coventry; and Judith, to William Raymond, attorney-at-law, of Braintree, and afterwards of Black Notley. This estate was afterwards the property of Henry Ray.

In the reign of Edward the Third, a family lived at the estate of Fennes, whose surname was Att Fenn, from whence the name of the place may be inferred to have been derived from its situation. The mansion is near Braintree, on the confines of Gosfield parish.

In 1580, this manor and estate were sold, by Robert Rampson, of Chingford, to Robert Dawes, of Stisted; who again sold them to Martha, the widow of Thomas Heigham, esq. of Denham, in Suffolk; who, in the following year, conveyed them to William Benlowes, esq. of Finchingfield, in whose family the estate continued till 1655, when Edward Benlowes‡ and his co-heirs joined in the conveyance of it to Nathan Wright, esq.: and, in 1662, his successor in this possession, sir Benjamin Wright, bart. of Cranham, conveyed it to Jeremiah Reeve, of High Garret. It afterwards became the property of Mrs. Baynes, as the estate of Willoughbys was the property of John Thomas Baynes.

The mansion-house of the manor of Boones is nearly opposite to High Garret, and a mile and a half distant from the church.

* Arms of Fryer: Sable, a chevron between three dolphins, argent.

† Robert Maysent, of Lysons, in Bocking, made the first long bay manufactured in England.

‡ In 1635, Edward Benlowes, esq. sold a yearly rent of twelve pounds for ever, issuing out of this estate, to Ellen Goulston, of London; which her son, Theodore Goulston, M.D. gave by deed to the college of physicians, in London. See *Wood's Athen*, vol. i. col. 570. He calls this Ellen the doctor's widow, not his mother.

BOOK II. In 1547, Roger Wentworth, esq. sold to William Goodwin, esq. "lands, woods, and underwoods, formerly belonging to Richard Boone, in Bocking; a grove called Hedgeland; two others named Halywell Weld, and Boone's Weld." He died in 1554, and his son Thomas sold the estate to John Fitch, on whose decease, in 1569, he was succeeded by his brother Oswald, who came and resided at Lyons, where he died in 1612: he had also the farm of Morrels, which he ordered to be sold for the payment of his debts. From his brother Stephen, Boones passed to Joseph Reeve.

Bocking
Park.
Lyons.

Bocking Park, and the farm called the Lodge, belong to the earl of Essex.

The mansion of Lyons is rather more than a mile south-east from the church, and about a mile from Boones. A family surnamed Lyon flourished here in the time of Edward the first and Edward the second. It was holden of Bocking Hall, and, in 1548, was sold, by Roger Wentworth, esq. to William Goodwin, esq. whose son Thomas sold it, with the estate of Boones, to John Fitch, esq. on whose decease they passed to his brothers, Oswald and Stephen, and to Robert Hawkins, esq. whose only daughter Frances conveyed them, in marriage, to Sir John Dawes, bart. on whose decease they became the property of his lady. This estate was purchased, in 1819, by William Rankin, esq.

High
Garret.

A handsome large mansion-house, on the west side of the road from Gosfield and Halstead, has received the name of High Garret, from the peculiar form of the old house, which stood on the opposite side of the way, surrounded by a deep moat, the remains of which are yet visible. It belonged to John Barret in 1428, from whom it took the name of Barrets, and has, in records, been named a manor. In 1526, it passed from William Heggeman and Edmund Rede, to John Clerke; and, from his successor of the same name, to Clement and Andrew Clerke, in 1538; the latter of whom sold it, in 1584, to John Reeve; and, after passing to several other proprietors, became the property of Osgood Gee, esq.

Boving-
ton Hall.

Bovington Hall, about a mile north-west from the church, near the road to Wethersfield, was given to the prior and convent of Christchurch, in Canterbury, by Richard Bovington, in 1353,* and forms part of the estate belonging to the corporation of the clergy.

Church.

The church is supposed to have been erected about the time of king Edward the third, and is a noble specimen of the architecture of that period; being a stately building of flint and stone, situated on high ground, and forming a conspicuous object at a considerable distance. It is dedicated to the Virgin Mary; both the church and chancel have north and south aisles, and the tower contains six bells.

In this church there were formerly three altars, dedicated respectively to St. Mary, St. Nicholas, and St. Catharine; and five chantries. The living has a glebe of one

* Appendix to Somner's *Antiquities of Canterbury*, ed. 1708, No. 36, p. 40.

hundred and eight acres; it is a rectory and deanery, the head of the archbishop's peculiars in Essex and Suffolk, all of which are exempt from the jurisdiction of their diocesans, and subject to the archbishop's commissary, who is called the dean of Bocking. CHAP. V.

The parsonage, or deanery, is a fine old mansion, of considerable antiquity, on rising ground, commanding an agreeable prospect.

Male and female figures, in the south aisle of the church, are believed to represent individuals of the Doreward family, to whom this aisle belonged; but the inscriptions are entirely defaced. Inscriptions and monuments.

The north aisle of the chancel belongs to Bocking Hall, and has a marble monument on its northern side, upon which, under a pediment supported by marble columns, a female figure, in a devotional attitude, represents Mrs. Moore, wife of Adrian Moore, esq. who died in childbed in the year 1624, and was buried here; below this monument a black marble bears the following:—

“ Having lost one dear to me,
Reader, I would let you see,
If this stone could help to show
How my heart is plunged in woe:
To want the comfort once I had,

Ere she within this tomb was clad.
Too greatly should I be oppress,
Did I not know her happy rest:
Who, while she lived, made Christ her stay,
And now doth live with him for aye.”

A handsome marble monument on the east side of the same chancel aisle bears the following:

“ Sacred to the memory of Prisca Cobournè, relict of Thomas Cobourne, of Stratford-le-Bow, gent. who, though young and of great fortune, yet, for the sake of the public, refused to alter her condition. She was the daughter of the rev. Mr. Foster, minister of Bow, and lived worthy that church she sprung from; and died not unmindful of her descent from it, piously disposing of her estate, which was very large, to religious, charitable, and prudent purposes; thus her manor of Bocking Hall, with all the lands appertaining to it, (one farm only reserved for another charity,) she bequeathed to the corporation of the sons of the clergy, for the relief of poor widows of the church of England ministers; and to place out their children, unprovided for, to honest trades and proper employments. Though her body lies entombed at Bow, yet the corporation of the sons of the clergy, in gratitude to their good benefactress, ordered this monument to be here erected, to her honour, and for the example of others; and the following lines to be inscribed to her perpetual memory:

“ Stay, passenger,
Though Cobourne's ashes lay not here enshrined,
Here view the lively portrait of her mind;
Chaste, pious, liberal, good; graces that claim
Immortal honours, and a deathless fame;
Her monument for ages yet to come,

Wouldst thou behold? leave this imperfect tomb;
Go and survey the spacious lands around,
That fair inheritance her poor have found;
Those virtues bore her noble soul above,
And raised this stone with gratitude and
love.”

BOOK II. A tomb in the church-yard, to the memory of John Maysent, gent. of Bocking Hall, bears the following poetical inscription:

“ Let these mementos of mortality
Warn us on earthly gifts not to rely,
Youth, beauty, wisdom, virtue, strength, estate,
Without respect or favour have their fate;
Sufficient proof each day, each hour affords,
Eight here this single monument records.
A wife, in whom each noble virtue join'd,
A wife, in whom the graces all combined;

And seven hopeful children here do lie,
Bearing their lovely mother company.
The last was John, whose praises let me tell,
Who knew his virtues and his goodness well.
Since then our loss their gain is, cease to mourn,
For we to them shall go, not they return:
Then bear it calmly, though a heavy loss,
The only way to heaven is by the Cross.”

Charities. In 1438, John Doreward, esq. built an hospital on two acres of land belonging to his own estate, at the corner of Church-lane: he endowed it with the manor of Tending,* and a rent of ten pounds yearly. This house was named *Maison de Dieu*, and continues to the present time an habitation for seven poor people.† There is also an almshouse for eight dwellers.

In 1571, William Benlowes, esq. gave an annuity of three pounds out of an estate in Little Bardfield; and also a yearly rent of two pounds thirteen shillings and fourpence, to be paid out of Rookwoods, in this parish, to be distributed to the almshouse people, and for the reparation of the almshouses.

In 1573, William Marten, of Halstead, gave an annuity of four pounds, out of a messuage in Castle Hedingham, to be distributed in equal portions, at Michaelmas and Lady-day, to the poor of Bocking.

In 1601, Mrs. Joanna Smith bequeathed four hundred pounds to purchase lands of forty marks yearly value, for the relief of the poor of Coggeshall and Bocking; the twenty marks belonging to this parish to supply five shillings' worth of bread every Sunday, and the distributors, to have six shillings and eight pence for their trouble.

The sum of thirty pounds was bequeathed by sir Stephen White, knt. in 1680, to the poor of Bocking, which, with Mrs. Smith's annuity, supplied the purchase money for four fields, near King's Corner, in Bocking, the yearly rents and profits of which are distributed to the poor, on some Sunday between Michaelmas-day and the 10th of November, at the discretion of the rector and feoffees.

A bequest of forty pounds to the poor, by John Stocker Jekyl, esq. was included in the sum expended in the purchase and fitting up of the workhouse; but forty shillings (the interest of this money) are received and distributed by the minister and churchwardens.

In 1628, Mr. Skinner gave the rents and profits of two crofts called Wentlands, to be distributed in linen and woollen to poor and honest sort of people, on St. Andrew's day, for ever.

In 1630, Thomas Trotter gave an annuity of three pounds six shillings and eight

* In Debden, in Uttlesford.

† *Monast. Anglic.* vol. ii. p. 477.

pence, out of a house in Braintree, to be disposed of to thirty poor people of honest life, fourteen days before St. Thomas's day. CHAP. V.

Mr. Gerard left the income of a tenement and a field of two acres, to be given to the poor of Bocking at Michaelmas and Lady-day.

George Elkin gave fifty pounds to be vested in lands or tenements, the interest or profits to be distributed yearly, for ever, to poor deserving people, on All Saints' day, which was his birth-day.

John Aylet, of Bocking, in 1707, left an annuity of seven pounds, the yearly value of the moiety of a house and land, to be given to the poor of this town and of Braintree.

In 1721, John Mathum, of Braintree, bricklayer, left an annuity of twenty-one pounds, to be given to twenty poor persons in Bocking.

In 1723, John Maysent, of this parish, left an annuity of forty shillings for repairing his tomb and vault; the overplus to be given to the poor of the parish.

John Gauden, D.D. rector of Bocking, and afterwards bishop of Worcester, gave four hundred pounds for a school-room in Church-lane, and to purchase a farm called Langlands, in Much Lees, out of the income of which, sixteen pounds* a year were assigned to the schoolmaster for his maintenance, and the remainder to be paid into the hands of the dean of Bocking for the time being, as a stock for the improving and repairing of the premises. The schoolmaster and every scholar to be nominated and elected, and, if occasion requires, suspended from the school, by the dean of Bocking, the rector of Stisted, and the vicar of Braintree, for the time being; or by the dean and either of the other two, who are overseers of the school, which is for the teaching of thirty poor boys, born and living in this parish, to read and write; not to be admitted under seven years of age, to continue three years, and none to remain beyond the age of twelve years.

In 1821, this parish contained two thousand seven hundred and eighty-six, and, in 1831, three thousand one hundred and twenty-eight inhabitants.

RAYNE.

The parish of Rayne, or Raine, is surrounded by Braintree, Bocking, Great Saling, and Stebbing. At the time of the survey it was joined to Braintree, with which it constituted the lordship of Raines, and was in possession of Roger de Ramis, whose name was also written Rennes, and Reymes. The village contains many good houses, and is pleasantly situated on the road to Dunmow, at the distance of one mile from Braintree. The stream that rises in Bardfield, and waters several neighbouring parishes, passes here, and, opposite the residence of Mrs. Blenco, a fine

* This annuity has been advanced to twenty-one pounds, and the number of scholars taught limited to thirty.

BOOK II. large pond of water, in which a small islet is covered with elegant shrubs, forms an attractive ornament to this beautiful village. The parish has been noticed as remarkably healthy, and by a strict course of observation it is found, that, except when a malignant fever prevailed here, all the burials have been either infants or persons above sixty, many above seventy, some eighty and upwards, and one John Hawes died here at the age of ninety-four: to this statement there has not been an exception in the course of ten years. The soil consists of strong loams on a whitish clay bottom, but very much intermixed and broken, the higher parts sometimes consisting of clay, and the hollows and sides of the hills of gravel; in some instances, soils of various descriptions have been mixed together with good effect,* and some of the clay beds of considerable depth are valuable for the manufacture of white bricks.

In the time of Edward the confessor, the lands of this parish were chiefly in the possession of Gudmund and Aluni; and, at the survey, were become the property of Hugh de Montford and his under-tenant Alcher, and of Roger de Ramis.

Rayne Hall was that portion of this parish which was given by the Conqueror to Hugh, the younger son of Turstin de Bastenbure, a Norman lord, commonly called "Hugh with the beard," the Normans being at that time usually shaved: one hundred and fourteen lordships were given to him, of which sixteen were in this county. He was slain in a duel with Henry de Ferrers, leaving a son named Hugh, who, by his first wife, had Robert, and Hugh, a monk of Bec, in Normandy. Robert, the eldest, was general of the army of William Rufus; but afterwards, being accused of favouring the party who attempted to restore the crown to duke Robert, he obtained leave to go to Jerusalem, leaving all his possessions to the king. He died on his pilgrimage, as did also his brother Hugh, leaving their father childless by his first wife; but, by his second wife, he left an only daughter, married to Gilbert de Gaunt, who had by her a son named Hugh, who, on account of his mother's large possessions, assumed the title of Montfort.†

In the reigns of Henry the second, Richard the first, and king John, Robert de Welles is named in records as lord of Raynes; and, in the time of Henry the third, Thomas Welles held the manor of Little Raynes of the king, as of the honour of Rayley, by the service of one knight's fee. In 1268, Nicholas Lewkenor died holding this manor by the same tenure, with the service of ten shillings yearly to Dover Castle, and suit at the monthly court of Haghele or Hawle; the king confirmed this possession to Roger, the son of Nicholas, in 1267. The estate again reverted to the family of Welles, in 1293, in which year Thomas de Welles succeeded his father Henry, on his decease; whose successor was his son Walter, in 1315, followed by

* Average annual produce per acre—wheat 24, barley 36, oats 36 bushels.

† Will, Gemmeticensis, p. 286, 289. Gesta Gulielmi Ducis, p. 202. Ordericus, p. 506, 773, 823. Chronic. Norman, p. 992.

his son of the same name, in 1325: he left Joan, his only daughter and heiress, by his first wife Isabel, sister to Edmund de Kemsek, who held Kemseks, in Felsted, and the manor of Great Samford; but Alice, his second wife, was with child at the time of his decease. The Welleses of Essex are a branch of the noble family of that name in Lincolnshire, and from their long continuance here gave their name to the manor.

William de Rushbrook, of Roysbrooke, marrying Joan Welles, came to this possession, and was living here in 1362, but the time of his decease is not known. Eleanor, his only daughter and heiress, was married to John Pyke, who had by her Nicholas Pyke: he presented to this church in 1439; and, on his decease without issue, Maud, his only sister, became heiress of the estate. She was married to John L'Estrange, esq. descended from sir Hamon L'Estrange, of Hunstanton, in Norfolk, second son of John, lord Strange, of Knocking, in Shropshire. Eleanor Pyke, having survived her husband and son, died in 1471, and left the manor and advowson of the church to Henry L'Estrange, esq. her great grandson and heir, being the son of Roger, son of Alice, daughter of Maud, daughter of the said Eleanor. The lordship was afterwards alienated to Richard Tournant, or, as his name appears in the fine, Turvant; who, in 1486, conveyed it to sir William Capel, in whose family it has continued to the present time.

The ancestor of the noble family of the present owner of this lordship was Hugh Capel, of Capel, in Stoke Neyland, in Suffolk; he held Jakeham of king Henry the first, by the 'service of two knights' fees; sir Richard de Capel, in 1261, was lord justice of Ireland;* and sir John Capel was chaplain to Lionel, duke of Clarence, who, by his will, left him a girdle of gold.†

Capel family.

John Capel, esq. of Stoke Neyland, dying in 1449, left three sons and a daughter, minors: John, the eldest, had the Suffolk estate: William, the second son, from whom the earls of Essex descended, was an eminent merchant in London, where he acquired an immense fortune,‡ which tempted Empson and Dudley, Henry the seventh's detested agents of oppression, to extort from him the sum of sixteen hundred pounds, and also to attempt to get from him a further sum of two thousand pounds, under the pretence of his having neglected to punish a false coiner; but, not tamely submitting to this gross injustice, he was committed to the Tower. He was knighted at the coronation of Henry the seventh; was sheriff of London in 1489; in 1503, lord mayor, and one of the representatives of that city in the parliaments that met in 1491, 1512, and 1514. At an entertainment which he gave to Henry the eighth, he is said to have thrown several bonds for money owed to him by that monarch into the fire; and

* History of Ireland, by sir Rich. Cox, part i. p. 69.

† Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 167.

‡ His riches became proverbial: Alexander Barclay, the poet, says, in reference to him, "I ask not the store of Cosmies, or Capel."—*Eclogue* iv.

at another time, on a similar occasion, as a frolic, drank to the king's health a dissolved pearl of great value. He was in possession of large estates in Essex, particularly of Rayne Hall, and married Margaret, daughter of sir Thomas Arundel, of Lanhern, in Cornwall, by whom he had Giles, knighted in 1513, for his valour at Terouenne and Tournay; Elizabeth, married to sir William Paulet, afterwards marquis of Winchester; and Dorothy, married to John, lord Zouch, of Harringworth. Sir Giles Capel succeeded his father, on his decease in 1515.* He attended king Henry the eighth into France, in 1520, where, with some others, he challenged all comers in feats of arms for thirty days: he was afterwards appointed sheriff of Hertfordshire and Essex, in 1528, and was also justice of the peace for Essex, and died at Rayne Hall in 1556: by his first lady, Mary, daughter of sir Richard Roos, younger son of sir William Roos, of Belvoir, he had Henry. His second lady was Isabel, daughter and co-heiress of Sir John Newton, of Wake, in Somersetshire, by whom he had Margaret, wife of William Ward, esq. of Brooks, and Edward. Sir Henry Capel succeeded his father, and married Anne, daughter of George Manners, lord Roos, but died without issue, and was succeeded by his half-brother, Edward, who received the honour of knighthood, and was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1560: he married Anne, daughter of sir William Pelham, ancestor to his grace the duke of Newcastle, by whom he had Henry, Giles, William; Elizabeth, Mary, Anne, and Grace, of whom the last died in 1587: Henry succeeded his father on his decease in 1577, was sheriff of Essex in 1579, knighted in 1587, and died in 1588: he married, first, Mary, daughter of Anthony Brown, viscount Montacute; secondly, Catharine, fourth daughter of Thomas Manners, earl of Rutland, by the latter of whom he had Arthur, William, Edward, John, Gamaliel, Robert; Agnes, Frances, Anne, and Mary. Sir Arthur Capel, the next succeeding representative of this noble family, resided at Rayne and at Little Hadham, in Hertfordshire, highly distinguished by a generous and liberal spirit, and unbounded hospitality. By his lady, Mary, daughter of John, lord Grey, of Pirgo, brother to the marquis of Dorset, he had Henry, Edward, Arthur, Robert, Humphrey, William, Giles, John, Roger, Gamaliel, James, and eight daughters. Henry, the eldest son, died in 1622, before his father, having married, first, Theodosia, sister to Edward, lord Montague, of Boughton, by whom he had Arthur, Henry who died in 1633, Elizabeth, and Theodosia. On the decease of his first lady, in 1615, sir Arthur married Dorothy Aldersey, widow of — Hoskins, knt. by whom he had three daughters, and Thomas, who died an infant. Arthur, the eldest son of Henry, succeeded his grandfather, and was elected representative in parliament for the county of Hertfordshire in 1639; and again in the Long Parliament, which commenced in 1640. He was exceedingly charitable to the poor, and very

* He was buried in a chapel of his own erection, in the church of St. Bartholomew, near the Exchange, London.

hospitable to his neighbours: in 1641, he was created baron Capel of Hadham. On the commencement of the civil war, in 1642, he raised nine hundred horse soldiers, at his own charge, for the king, and lent him twelve thousand pounds in money and plate. After bravely fighting in the royal cause in several engagements, and having made an ineffectual attempt to rescue the king from his imprisonment in the Isle of Wight, he was taken prisoner at Colchester, and beheaded in 1649, exhibiting, in his last moments, great composure and resignation. He was the author of a book of meditations: the family seat of Cashiobury, in the parish of Watford, in Hertfordshire, was part of the large inheritance which he had with his lady Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of sir Charles Morison, knt. and bart. of Hertfordshire; by her he had nine children,* of whom Arthur, the first-born, was his heir and successor, created viscount Maldon and earl of Essex, in 1661, by king Charles the second. In 1670, he was sent ambassador to the king of Denmark, and, on his return in 1672, was highly applauded for his good management of this mission, and made one of the privy council, and, in 1680, lord lieutenant of Ireland; he was also made first commissioner of the treasury. He was opposed to popery, and the adoption of violent measures; and, with other peers, petitioning against the parliament's sitting at Oxford, was accused of the Fanatic Plot, and committed to the Tower; and, in 1683, found lying on the ground with his throat cut, strongly suspected to have been the ruffian act of an emissary of James, duke of York; but the truth or falsity of this assumption has not been discovered. By his lady Elizabeth, daughter of Algernon, earl of Northumberland, this unfortunate nobleman had six sons and two daughters, but was only survived by Anne, married to Charles Howard, earl of Carlisle; and his fifth son, Algernon, the second earl, who succeeded his father in 1683. He was highly esteemed by king William, whom he attended in his expeditions into Holland and Flanders: queen Anne made him constable of the Tower, and lieutenant-general of her forces. He married Mary, daughter of William Bentinck, earl of Portland,† by whom he had Elizabeth, Mary,‡ and William, the third earl, who succeeded his father on his decease in 1709: he married, first, Jane, eldest surviving daughter of Henry Hyde, earl of Clarendon and Rochester, by whom he had four daughters.§ The earl's second lady was Elizabeth, daughter of Wriothesley, second duke of Bedford, by whom he had his only son,

* Henry was created baron Capel of Tewksbury, in 1692; the other children were Edward, Charles; Mary, married to Henry lord Beauchamp, son of the marquis of Hertford, and afterwards to Henry, duke of Beaufort; Elizabeth, married to Charles, earl of Caernarvon; Theodosia, to Henry, earl of Clarendon; and Anne, the wife of John Strangeways, esq. of Dorsetshire.

† Re-married, after his decease, to sir Conyers D'Arcy, brother to the earl of Holderness.

‡ The first married to Samuel Molyneux, esq., and, after his decease, in 1728, to Nathaniel St. Andre, esq.; and Mary, married to Alan Broderick, viscount Middleton.

§ Caroline and Jane died young; Charlotte was married to Thomas Villiers, earl of Clarendon; and Mary, to admiral John Forbes, son of George, third earl of Granard.

BOOK II. William-Anne-Holles, who, succeeding his father on his decease in 1743, became the fourth earl: he married, first, Frances, daughter of sir Charles Hanbury Williams, K.B. (by Frances, daughter of Thomas, earl of Coningsby) by whom he had George, and two daughters.* His lordship marrying, secondly, Harriet, daughter of colonel Thomas Bladen, had by this lady (who died in 1821) four children;† and, dying in 1799, was succeeded by his son George, present and fifth earl; heir presumptive, Arthur Algernon Capel, esq. the earl's nephew.‡

The mansion-house of Rayne Hall has apparently been erected at two different times; the more ancient part by the Welles family, and the new by sir Giles Capel.§

Old Hall,
or Bay-
nards.

In the time of Edward the confessor, the two great landholders, named Aluin and Edric, had the manor of Old Hall, or Baynards, the whole of which, at the time of the survey, belonged to Roger de Ramis, whose family resided here several ages. The house was in the northern part of the parish, in an inclosure called Chapel-field, on rising ground, near the river, where traces of the ground plan, and the moat that surrounded it, are yet visible.|| This manor was the head of the barony of Little Raines, which consisted of ten knights' fees.

Roger de Rennes is mentioned in records in 1140; and, in 1167, William de Reymes paid a mark for each knight's fee to king Henry the second, when Matilda, his eldest daughter, was married to Henry, duke of Saxony, from whom king George the first of England was lineally descended. William and Richard de Raines paid twenty shillings for each knight's fee, for the war in Ireland, in 1172; and the same persons, in 1194, paid these sums for the redemption of king Richard out of captivity. Robert, Richard, and William de Ramis were brothers, descendants of Roger; and, on the decease of Robert, without issue, the barony became the inheritance of Richard, who, on his decease, about the close of the reign of king John, left his three daughters his co-heiresses. Alice was the widow of Roger de Marmos; Amicia, the second, was

* Diana, and Anne.

† These were John Thomas, who married Caroline Paget, daughter of Henry, earl of Uxbridge; Edward, major-general in the army; William Robert, A.M. chaplain to his majesty, rector of Rayne, and vicar of Watford, in Hertfordshire; Bladen Thomas, rear-admiral of the blue, and C. B.

‡ Arms of Capel: Gules, a lion rampant, between three cross crosslets fitché, or. Crest: a demi-lion rampant, supporting a cross crosslet fitchée, or. Supporters: two lions or, ducally crowned gules. Motto: "Fide et fortitudine." "By faith and fortitude."

§ There were several escutcheons in the windows of the chamber over the parlour, the first of which contained fifteen coats within a garter, under an earl's coronet; and in the window on the great staircase, Capel quarterly, one and four, two and three argent, a chevron below three torteaux gules, on a chief azure, a fret between two cinquefoils, or; under which, the year 1553; consequently, the arms of sir Giles Capel, who at that time lived here, and built this part of the house.

|| The name of Ramis is supposed to be a corruption of Rennes, or Raines; probably, in its first application, derived from the city of Rennes, in Bretagne.

given by the king, her guardian, to William de Marini; and Joan, the youngest, was married to William de Harlow. The family of Baynard, of Messing, had become possessed of this manor in the time of king Henry the third, and it was afterwards on that account called Baynards. Imania Baynard died holding this estate in 1272, succeeded by her son Roger, who died in 1295, and whose heir was Thomas, the son of his brother Richard, who died in 1344, holding this and other possessions, which descended to his son John; Thomas, who is supposed to have been his brother, held, with Katharine his wife, this manor, and also lands in Saling: he died in 1362. The last of the family that resided here was Walter, the son of Geoffrey de Raynes, who sold this manor to John Oxensey, who had also a messuage in this parish called Oxenseys.* Catharine, his daughter, conveyed this estate to her husband, Richard Downman, esq. who had by her Ralph and Humphrey. He died in 1454, and was succeeded by Ralph, whose brother Humphrey became his heir, on his decease without issue; in the inquisitions, on the conveyance of this inheritance, this manor is for the first time named Old Hall. On the decease of Humphrey Downham, in 1478, his son Henry became his heir, who died young, leaving his only sister Mary to inherit the family possessions, which were conveyed, by marriage, to her husband, Richard Fillol, esq. second son of William, one of the sons of John Fillol, esq. of Kelvedon; he came to this estate in 1504: John was his son and heir, who, dying in 1551, was succeeded by his son of the same name, whose son Anthony came to the estate in 1618, and died in 1629, his eldest son not being of age. Afterwards the family possessions were divided among his sons and grandsons, continuing in the family till James Fillol, esq. in 1720, sold this estate to Thomas Smith, esq. of Bardfield Magna.

An estate called the Lodge, belongs to the right hon. the earl of Essex.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a building of great antiquity, having been erected about the time of Henry the second, or Richard the first, soon after the division of the lordship into two parishes, by Robert de Welles, lord of the manor of Rayne Hall, to which the patronage of the rectory has continued attached to the present time. The floor is paved with tiles about four inches square, disposed in the form of lozenges. The tower is lofty and of ample dimensions, with a small shingled spire; it was built by sir William Capel, whose arms appear in the brick-work near the foundation, on either side of the belfry door:† the tower contains four bells.

In 1199, Robert de Welles and Harvey de Reynes endowed this church with a house and twenty acres of glebe land, as appears from the original deed, which is yet extant.

An altar in a chapel at the east end of the south aisle of this church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was in high reputation in Catholic times, and much visited by child-

* Arms of Oxensey: Per fesse, sable and argent, a bull's head counter horned, or.

† These ancient arms are, on one side of the door, a lion rampant; and on the other, an anchor.

BOOK II. bearing women, from a superstitious belief that prayers to the Virgin from this shrine were of peculiar efficacy.* There were also two obits here.

Inter-ments. Many of the Capel family are interred in this church, particularly sir Giles Capel, who died in 1556, and also his first lady, who died before him. Sir Edward Capel, who died in 1577, and lady Grace, his daughter, buried here in 1587. Sir Henry Capel, who died in 1588, and was buried with Katharine, his lady. Henry Capel, esq. interred in 1615, and Thomas, the infant son of sir Arthur, who died in 1621.

Edward Symonds. Edward Symonds, M.A. rector of Rayne, in the time of king Charles the first, was a person of considerable celebrity, and author of various publications; among which are *Hermes Theologus*; a *New Descant upon Old Records*; a *Vindication of king Charles the first, &c.*; and various political and theological works.

Bishop Kidder. Dr. Richard Kidder, bishop of Bath and Wells, a very learned divine, was rector here from 1664 to 1674; his death was caused by the fall of a chimney, in the great storm of 1703. Among his valuable and learned writings are, *A Demonstration of the Messiah*, in which the truth of the Christian religion is proved, especially against the Jews, 3 vols. 8vo. frequently reprinted; a *Commentary on the Pentateuch*, 2 vols. 8vo.; *Life of Dr. Horneck*, 12mo.; *Critical Remarks on some difficult passages of Scripture*, 8vo.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and forty-three, and, in 1831, three hundred and twenty inhabitants.

PANFIELD, OR PANTFIELD.

Pantfield. This parish extends southward to Rayne, westward to Great Saling, and is bounded on its north, north-east, and eastern extremities, by the river Blackwater, formerly named Pant,† and by the town of Braintree. Its name in records is written Pangfield, Pamfield, Pantisfield, Paunfield, Puntfend; and, in *Domesday*, Penfeld. The parish from east to west measures two miles, and three from north to south, and contains fourteen hundred acres of land, including the woods, by which it is very agreeably diversified: the soil is a strong loam on clay, variously modified.‡ The village, agreeably situated, is not far distant from the river, and has always been con-

* The occurrence from which this superstition arose happened in the time of Edward the third, when, during a difficult and almost hopeless labour of the wife of John de Naylinghurst, her attendants were sent to offer prayers and vows here, in her behalf; and, on their return, finding their mistress safely delivered, declared it was what they had with confidence anticipated, for, said they, "Our lady of mercy smiled upon us."

† The antiquity of this name appears from a passage in the chronicle of Ralph de Coggeshall, who, speaking of the old city of Ithanchester, or, as he names it, Stancaster, has this passage: "*Civitas Stancaster stetit super ripam rivoir de Pante. currentis per Maldunum.*" See also *Bede's Eccles. Hist.* b. 3, ch. 22.

‡ Average annual produce per acre—wheat 24, barley 36, oats 36 bushels.

sidered in a high degree salubrious, which opinion is confirmed by an inspection of the register.* The distance from Braintree is two, and from London forty miles.

The lands of this parish were in the divided possession of a thane named Wisgar, and a free woman, in the time of Edward the confessor; but, at the Domesday survey, had become the property of Richard Fitz-Gilbert, and the abbey of St. Stephen, at Caen, in Normany.

Pantfield Hall is a large building, commanding a very beautiful and interesting prospect: it is south of the church, from which it is not far distant. This fine old mansion has necessarily been much altered by frequent repairs, but its quadrangular tower and handsomely clustered chimneys are interesting features of its original antiquity.†

Pantfield
Hall.

Robert de Wateryl, or Watervil, held this estate under Richard Fitz-Gilbert, at the time of the survey of Domesday; he also held under him the lordship of Hemsted, and is believed to have been either the brother or son of William de Watervil, who held High Rooding and Hanningfield in the reign of the Conqueror. The successor of Robert de Watervil was his son sir Robert, who lived at Hemsted in the time of king Richard and king John; and, by Maud his wife, had sir William, to whom, in 1253, king Henry the third granted a charter of free-warren in his lordships of Hemsted and Pantfield. His son and successor was the second sir William, who, marrying Thorema, daughter and heiress of sir Robert Roos, of Radwinter, had by her his only son, sir John de Watervil, who left a son of the same name, and Joan, who, on her brother's decease, without issue, became sole heiress of the family,‡ and conveyed this estate to her husband, Richard de Mutford, in 1330, who, dying before her, without issue, she was again married, in 1341, to her second husband, sir William de Langham, of the family of sir Ralph de Langham, a person of celebrity in the time

Watervil
family.

Langham
family.

* The number of deaths in three years, from Easter-day 1814 to Easter-day 1817, was five; of the respective ages of eighty-eight, ninety, eighty-one, and two of eighty-four, making a total of four hundred and twenty-seven years. In five years, the burials were only eight: the average of deaths, one in fifty.

† The hall was built in 1546, and the other modern part of this erection in 1583, by George Cotton and Frances his wife, the initial letters of whose names appear on the mantel-piece in the dining room.

‡ Of this family was the gallant sir William de Watervil, who accompanied king Richard the first to the Holy Land, and acquired fame by his magnanimous conduct at the taking of Ptolemais, and in other actions. Robert of Gloucester speaks of him in his rhyming chronicle:

“ King Richard, with gud entent,

Sir William Waterville,

To yat cite of Tases went;

Sir Hubart and sir Robart of Turnham,

On morn he sent after sir Robert Salkeville,

Sir Bertram Brandes, and John de St. John.”

There were three knights bannerets of this family, all living at the same time in this county, in the reign of Edward the first, bearing the following arms: sir John de Watervil, argent, three chevrons; sir Robert, the same, within a bordure, indented sable: sir Roger, argent, three chevrons gules, a martlet sable.—*Barnes' Hist. of Ed. the Third*, p. 293. *Fuller's Church Hist.* p. 43. *Knight's Bannerets*, temp. *Ed. the First*, fol. 45.

BOOK II. of Henry the second:* the estate continued in this family for several generations, till Alice, the only daughter of Richard Langham, esq. by marriage, conveyed it to her husband, John Cotton, esq. a descendant of the celebrated sir Robert Cotton, founder of the Cottonian library.† Thomas, the son of George Cotton, of this family, in 1611, sold Pantfield Hall to sir Henry Gawdy, knt. of Claxton Castle, in Norfolk, who, on his decease, left it to his son Anthony, and he, in 1613, sold it to William Hart and William Stoke, who, in 1616, conveyed it to Lawrence Washington; who sold it, in 1617, to James Heron, esq. and he, in 1641, disposed of it to Richard Fitz-Simonds, esq. of Yeldham Magna; who, dying in 1680, left this estate to his nephew, John Symonds, esq. of the Pool, in Great Yeldham; and he, in 1691, gave it to his nephew, Martin Carter, esq. of Great Saking Hall, of whom it was purchased, in 1702, by Richard Beale, esq. of Maidstone, in Kent, on whose decease, in 1712, it descended to his nephew, Alexander Beale, esq. of Hale Place, in Kent: it now belongs to Guy's Hospital.‡

Cotton family.

Pantfield Priory.

The ancient priory of Pantfield was at a short distance northward from the church: the precise time of its original foundation is not known; but it is known from records,

* Sir William, soon after his marriage, came and resided sometimes at Hemsted Hall, and sometimes at Pantfield: the offspring of this marriage were William, Robert, John, and Thomas; of whom, sir William, the eldest, succeeded his father, and married Margaret, daughter and co-heiress of William, son of Geoffrey de Darsham; by this lady he had John, Robert, and Katharine, married to Ralph de Hemenall. John de Langham, the eldest son and heir, had two wives, but had issue only by the first, who was Alice, daughter and co-heiress of sir William Coggeshall, of Little Samford Hall, widow of sir John Tyrell, of Herons. He died in 1417, in the life-time of his father; his son and successor, George Langham, esq. was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1449, and married Isabel, daughter of William Hailden, lord of the manor of Little Chesterford, by whom he had an only son, his successor, Richard Langham, esq. who married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of William Southcote, esq. by whom he had his only daughter, Alice, married to John Cotton, esq. Arms of Langham: Argent, a fesse gules; a label of three points, azure.

† Alice was married, first, to Thomas St. John, esq. and, secondly, to John Cotton, esq. By her first husband she had five daughters, and to her second she bore three sons and three daughters; surviving both her husbands, she died in 1525, at the time of her decease holding the manors of Hemsted and Pantfield, of Catharine, queen of England, as of her honour of Clare. Her successor in this estate was her son, Sigismund Cotton, esq. who married Bridget, daughter of Thomas Sale, of London, and whose second wife was Jane Garnish: on his decease, in 1590, he was succeeded by William Cotton, esq. (his only son by his first wife) who marrying Anne, daughter of John Vescay, esq. of Cambridgeshire, had George, and several other sons, who died without issue, and Giles, William, and Anne: dying in 1561, he was succeeded by his son, George Cotton, esq. who married Frances, daughter of Thomas Felton, esq. of Playford, in Suffolk, by whom he had Thomas, George, Anthony, William; Beatrice, married to Robert Berners, esq. of Gray's-inn; Frances, the wife of — Pepper, of Hemsted; Abigail, married to Robert Cooke, esq. of Langham, in Suffolk; Anne, and Mary. On his decease, in 1592, he was succeeded in the estates of Hemsted, Langham, and Pantfield, by his son and heir, Thomas Cotton, esq. who sold the manor of Pantfield Hall. Arms of Cotton: Azure, an eagle displayed, argent; beaked and legged, gules.

‡ This lordship, from the time of the Conqueror, was holden of the honour of Clare, by the service of half a knight's fee, and the advowson of the church was annexed to it, and now belongs to Benjamin William Page, esq. vice-admiral of the blue.

that in 1070, Waleran Fitz-Ralph gave his little manor of Pantfield* to the abbey of St. Stephen, in Normandy;† and this donation was confirmed by king William the first, Henry the second, Richard the first, and Henry the fourth. It is also recorded that the prior and monks had a licence for free-warren here in 1250; the foundation, therefore, of this house, was previous to that period. The priors of this house, after its becoming a cell to the great foreign abbey, were invested with a greater power than they previously possessed, and several of them were made procurators-general to that abbey throughout all England, to take account of their lands and rents;‡ and their power and influence increased till the commencement of a war between France and England, in 1285, when this, as one of the priories alien, was seized by king Edward the second, in order to prevent the carrying money out of the kingdom into the hands of the enemy. The same policy was also pursued by Edward the third, who, in 1337, or 1338, during his wars with France, confiscated the goods and estates of all the alien priories in England which were cells to monasteries in France. These he let out to farm during the space of twenty-three years, and among others this of Pantfield, with that of Wells, were farmed by Hugh Falstolf. When the war ended, all the lands, tenements, and possessions of these religious houses were restored, and the full enjoyment of them allowed, till the year 1414, when all the alien priories in England, not conventual, were totally suppressed, and their possessions vested in the crown. In 1415, king Henry the fifth granted this priory of Pantfield, with that of Wells, to John Woodhouse, esq. of Norfolk, to hold by the service of a red rose; and his son John enjoyed this possession till his decease, when it returned to the crown, and; in 1460, was granted, in free alms, by king Henry the sixth, to King's College, in Cambridge. In 1461, king Edward the fourth granted this manor of the priory of Pantfield to Gresild,§ widow of John Hind, esq. to hold by the service of a red rose yearly, on St. John Baptist's day, for all services; and the said Gresild Hind, in 1471, left this estate in trust for Thomas Bouchier, cardinal of St. Cyriac, and archbishop of Canterbury;|| and, in 1472, he gave it to the prior and convent of

* Maneriolum, as it is written in the original grant, and in subsequent confirmations. This appears from the great roll of king Edward the Third, where it is stated that Edward, the father of Edward the third, having wars with France, did seize this priory and that of Wells, and granted the custody of them to Robert de Stokes, then prior of Pantfield; he being required to pay the customary farm of seventy-six pounds a year.—*From the original roll in possession of the W'right family.*

† Founded by William the conqueror, in 1064, and dedicated to God, and St. Stephen, the proto-martyr.

‡ Besides the priory manor, there belonged to this cell a contiguous wood and lands, and the tithe of all the land that Waleran had in England, with very extensive possessions in various parts of the country.—*Monast. Anglic.* vol. i. p. 571, vol. ii. p. 956.

§ Her name is yet to be seen on a painted window of the manor-house, where it must have remained from 1455 to the present time, a period of nearly four hundred years.

|| The cardinal was the second son of sir William Bouchier, by the lady Anne, eldest daughter of Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, the sixth son of king Edward the third: he wore the mitre fifty-one years, and was archbishop of Canterbury thirty-two years. He died in 1486.

BOOK II. Canterbury,* who retained possession of it till the general suppression of religious houses, after which, in 1538, it was granted, with Bocking Park, and four hundred acres of wood there, to sir Giles Capel, of Rayne Hall, who, in 1549, conveyed it to John Goodday, clothier, of Braintree, who sold it to his son John, in 1575, from whom, in 1579, it was conveyed to John Seaman, of Chelmsford, some parcels of it excepted, which, in 1587, were, by the said John Goodday, granted to John his son, on a lease of two thousand years; and both father and son, in 1399, released all their right and title to Pantfield priory to the said John Seaman,† who lived at the priory house, where he died in 1604: his son was John Seaman, LL.D. who held this manor and messuage, with divers lands and appertenances; and also Bocking Park: his son John was his successor, on his decease in 1623, who, dying without issue, his brother, Samuel Seaman, esq. became his heir, who died in 1632, leaving his son Richard his heir, who lived at Painswick, in Gloucestershire; and marrying Katharine, daughter of Martin Wright, alderman of Oxford, had by her his only daughter and heiress, Katharine, who conveyed this estate to her husband, John West, esq. of Hampton Poyle, in Oxfordshire. Katharine, the wife, dying without issue in 1668, the estate was left in trust for William Wright, esq. the elder, from whom it descended to his son, William Wright, esq. of Trinity College, Oxford, afterwards of the Inner Temple; recorder of Oxford in 1688, and, in 1714, one of the judges or justices for the principality of Wales. He died in 1721, and his heir and successor was his eldest son, sir Martin Wright, of the Inner Temple, baron of the exchequer, and one of the justices of the king's bench. The present possessor is lady Frances Elizabeth, third daughter of the earl of Aylesbury, and widow of sir Henry Wright Wilson.

The lands of this estate have been divided into two farms, called the Great and Little Priors; but of the ancient monastic fabric no traces can now be discovered.

Church.

The church of Pantfield, dedicated to St. Christopher, is a small but handsome structure, pleasantly situated on elevated ground; the chancel is large in proportion to the nave; the altar-piece, of wainscot, is very elegant, and was erected at the expense of the rev. Thomas Kynaston, when rector. In the windows there appear some remains of stained glass, of superior workmanship. At the west end there is a tower, with a spire shingled, and a belfry, containing three bells. The parsonage is near the church, and is a cheerful modern erection, well sheltered by woods belonging to the hall and priory manor. The glebe lands do not exceed seven acres.

* The prior and convent, in acknowledgment of this generous donation, obliged themselves, by indenture, dated second of September, 1473, to pray for the good estate of the archbishop whilst he lived, and to perform at his funeral the solemn office for his soul, and the souls of his parents and friends; also henceforth, for ever, to keep his obit, in the same manner as they kept that of other archbishops, and to give a penny a-piece to a hundred poor people.—*Newcourt*, vol. ii. p. 460.

† In 1587, Edward Wymark, a hungry chantry-monger, and a hunter after concealed lands, obtained a grant of Pantfield priory of queen Elizabeth, but he could not oust the lawful possessors.

There are some inscriptions in this church, and a handsome monument to the memory of the wife of the rev. Robert Kynaston, the above-mentioned rector and patron of this parish.

CHAP. V.
Monu-
ments.

Among the remarkable persons interred here are John Cotton, esq. ancestor of the family of that name, of the Hall manor. In the middle aisle there are inscriptions to the memory of several of the same family, particularly of Alice, the wife of John Cotton, who was buried with her husband in 1525; her first husband, Thomas St. John, esq. is also interred in the same grave.

Richard Beale, esq. who died in 1712, lies at the upper end of the north side of the chancel.

The learned Mr. John Ouseley, son of the rev. John Ouseley, of Claypool, in Lincolnshire, was rector of Pantfield from 1668 to 1694; in that year he became rector of Springfield Boswell, and, in 1703, rector of Little Waltham: to his superior accomplishments as a scholar and a divine, he added a profound knowledge of the antiquities of his country; the excellent and learned bishop Gibson justly estimated his superior qualifications. Mr. Richard Newcourt mentions his name with deserved commendation, and Mr. Holman acknowledges himself not a little indebted to his collections and discoveries, which were communicated to him by Mr. Ouseley's son-in-law, Mr. Anthony Holbrook.

Rev. J.
Ouseley.

This parish, in 1821, contained two hundred and sixty-three, and, in 1831, three hundred and sixteen inhabitants.*

GREAT SALING.

This parish, named Great Saling, Sailing Magna, and Old Saling, extends north-westward to Little or Bardfield Saling, in Freshwell half hundred, and in other directions is bounded by Shalford, Pantfield, Rayne, and Stebbing. Formerly, these two parishes were united, and, in Domesday-book, are entered as the undivided possession of John, son of Waleran, which was held under him by Turstin Wiscart: it had also been held undivided in the time of Edward the confessor. The village surrounds a pleasant green, of a triangular form, containing five acres and a half; and the northern corner extends across the Great Bardfield road, on which rows of tall elms form an avenue to the church and the hall, where a highly pleasing and extensive prospect is presented, including the town and church of Danbury, with the high grounds southward, from Tiptree Heath to Pleshey.

Great
Saling.

A small stream called Pods, or Ponds-brook, waters part of this parish: it rises in Great Bardfield, and in its course visits this and the parishes of Rayne, Braintree, the

* The advowson of Pantfield is with the Pages. Benjamin William Page, esq., vice-admiral of the blue, received it from the Kynastons.

BOOK II. Notleys, Faulkbourne and Rivenhall, and afterwards falls into the Blackwater. This parish measures two miles across either way, and the soil is of various descriptions, but generally very fertile. It is distant from Braintree three, and from London forty-two miles.

Saling
Hall.

Sir Baldwin Wiscart, the son of Turstin, was lord of the manor of Great Saling Hall toward the close of the reign of king Henry the first: his son and successor was sir Hugh, living in 1199, whose son, John Wiscart, was the last of the family who had this estate.

Bibbes-
worth
family.

In the commencement of the reign of king Edward the first, sir Walter Bibbesworth was the possessor, and succeeded by his son sir Hugh, who flourished in the reigns of Edward the first and second; and sir John, his son and heir, held the manor of Saling of the lord de Saye, by the service of half a knight's fee. Hugh de Bibbesworth was his son and successor, who, by Amicia his wife, had Edmund, living in the reigns of the fourth and fifth Henries, and to the thirteenth of Henry the sixth; he married Goditha —, and had by her John; Joan, the wife of — Glouseter, and Agnes, wife of Thomas Cotys, of Warwickshire. John Bibbesworth died in 1449, leaving his son and heir, Thomas, who died without issue in 1485:* his heirs were Joan, daughter of the above-mentioned Joan Glouseter, wife of Thomas Barley, junior, and John, son of Thomas Cotys, and Agnes. John Cotys had Saling Hall for his purparty, which he conveyed, in 1486, to Richard Pole and others; from whom it was conveyed to John Knight, esq. and Emmeline his wife, widow of John Maxey, esq. and to their heirs and assigns; and it was given by them, in 1487, to John Maxey,† son of the said Emmeline, in whose family the estate continued till it

Maxey
family.

* Arms of Bibbesworth: Azure, three eagles displayed, or. Arms of Barley: Barry wavy of six, ermine and sable.

† The Maxey family was originally of Cheshire. Organ Maxey's two sons were Jordan and Albert. Jordan was the father of John, who, by his wife —, daughter of Thomas Grosvenor, had Thomas, John; Alice, wife of Brian Pever, and Isabel, of Thomas Bingham. Thomas had James, Anthony, Francis, and a daughter. Sir James Maxey, the eldest son by his first lady, whose maiden name was Buckley, had Robert, Christopher, and two daughters; and married, secondly, — Goodman. His successors, down to John Maxey, esq. the possessors of Saling Hall, in 1486, were Robert, who, by his wife —, daughter of William Bramme, had Anthony, Matthew, and two daughters: Sir Anthony Maxey, by his lady, daughter of sir Thomas Ledson, had sir John, who married, first, Margaret Doane, and had by her James, Robert, and a daughter. The maiden name of his second lady was Ashen. James, the eldest son, married the daughter and co-heiress of — Milbrome, and had Thomas, Robert, Henry, and two daughters. Sir Thomas, his successor, married, first, a daughter of Thomas Venables, and had George, Robert, Oliver, and two daughters. Thomas Maxey, esq. by — Marcy, of Puddington, in Devonshire, had his only son John, who married a daughter of Humphrey Barrington, esq. and had by her Edward, Richard, and John. Edward Maxey succeeding his father, married a daughter of Thomas Huddleston, by whom he had Thomas and John, of whom Thomas succeeding his father, had, by a daughter of Nicholas de la Polc, Brian, John, and Thomas. Brian Maxey, esq. by a daughter of Leonard Wolland, was the father of John

was sold, in 1665, to Martin Carter, esq. son of Martin Carter, of Redfans, in Shalford, of a family originally from Lincolnshire: he was of Queen's College, Cambridge, and of Gray's-inn; and marrying Elizabeth, only daughter of Anthony Wolmer, esq. of Lincolnshire, by Elizabeth, daughter of John Symonds, esq. of Great Yeldham, had by her Martin; John, attorney-at-law, of Braintree; Thomas, captain or master of a merchant ship; William, a bookseller in London; Elizabeth, wife of Anthony Maxey, esq.; Mary, married to — Knowsworth, of London; Anne, and Jemima. Martin Carter, esq. who succeeded his father of the same name, was of Christ's College, in Cambridge, and of Lincoln's-inn, a gentleman of distinguished learning and professional eminence. He married Mary Westwood, but had no offspring;* and after making great alterations and improvements in the house and gardens, sold this estate, in 1717, to Hugh Raymond, esq. who was succeeded by his son, Jones Raymond, esq. The late B. Goodrich, esq. proprietor of the Hall estate, and nearly the whole of this parish, had his residence at the handsome mansion of Saling Grove, on the opposite extremity of the village: but, since this gentleman's decease, that seat, with a portion of the surrounding property, has been purchased of his executors by W. Fowke, esq. the present occupier; and the ancient manorial mansion belongs to Mr. Goodrich's heirs, and is occupied by the widow of the late captain Dobbie, R. N. on the western side; and the eastern side belongs to captain Dick, R. N.

Saling
Grove.

Picotts is a manor which has derived its name from sir Ralph Picott, who lived in the time of Richard the first, and king John, being a descendant of — Picott, sewer to Alberic de Vere in the time of king Henry the first. Sir Ralph was succeeded by his son sir William, who, in the reign of Henry the third, held lands here of the king by the service of keeping one sparrow-hawk; and sir William, his son and heir, held this manor by the same tenure; they had also the manor of Picotts, in Ardley; he died in 1283, and was succeeded by sir Ralph, who held this manor by the same tenure as his predecessors, with the additional conditions that the king was to find him maintenance for three horses, three boys or grooms, and three greyhounds: his sons, by his wife Maud, were William and Robert; on his decease, in 1334, he was buried in Dunnow

Picotts.

Maxey, esq. who married Emmeline, daughter and heiress of — Anger, and had by her his only son John. Emmeline's second husband was John Knight, esq. the purchaser of Saling Hall, in 1516. By his wife, whose maiden name was Strangwich, he had his only son, John Maxey, esq.: his first wife's maiden name was Appleton, and his second, Cornwall: by the first he had Anthony, his successor on his decease in 1546, and also a second son, named William. Anthony Maxey, esq. married Dorothy Bassett, widow of Robert Bonham, by which he acquired the estate of Bradwell Hall, and other considerable possessions. His successors here and at Bradwell Hall were sir Henry, sir William, Greville, and Anthony Maxey, the last of whom, in 1665, sold Saling Hall to Martin Carter, esq. The rev. Martin Brunwin is the present owner of Bradwell Hall, in Witham, and possessor of the rectory and a handsome mansion newly erected.

* Arms of Carter: Gules, a cross patonce, or; on a chief azure, three firmeaux (i. e. buckles) of the first. Crest: A lion's head erased, or.

BOOK II. priory, to which he was a benefactor. His heir was John, son of his son William,* who sold the estate, in 1349, to Thomas de Mandevil, of Black Notley, by whom it was conveyed to John Hande, who died in 1418, and Gresild, his widow, in 1473; and their only daughter, Joan, conveyed it in marriage to Walter Writtle, esq. who was succeeded by his son and grandson, both named John; the latter of whom dying without issue, the estates descended to his kinsman and heir-at-law, John Basset; then to Gregory Basset, whose only daughter and heiress, Dorothy, conveyed it, in marriage, to Robert Bonham, esq. and to her second husband, Anthony Maxey, who died in 1592, and Dorothy in 1602; and from that period to 1665, the successive possessors were sir Henry Maxey, sir William Maxey, Greville and Anthony Maxey, esqs. the last of whom sold it to Martin Carter, esq. who sold it to a son of the rev. Samuel Collins, vicar of Braintree, whose widow sold it to sir Martin Lumley, bart.; and the heirs or assigns of his descendant, sir James Lumley, conveyed it to Guy's Hospital.

Parks. An estate named Parks has the mansion about half a mile from the church; it has been reputed a manor, and, in the time of Richard the first, was holden of the manor of Felsted, belonging to the Holy Trinity at Caen, by a family surnamed De Salynges; of this family, Roger de Salynge was living in the reign of Henry the second, who, by his wife Alice, daughter of Walter de Reynes, had Walter, father of Alan, who married Hawise, daughter of Geoffrey Botiller, and had by her Robert de Salynge, an eminent clergyman, who disposed of the estate to Roger at Parke, son of William de Parco, of St. Osyth, in 1293; and it remained in possession of that family till, in the time of king Henry the eighth, it was mortgaged to Anthony Maxey, esq. who conveyed it to John Ellis, of Rayne; upon whose decease, in 1651, it became the property of James Porter, succeeded by his son Nathaniel; and, from the arms of Vere in the hall window, it is supposed to have belonged to that noble family. In 1769, it became the property of John Yeldham, esq. The mansion, built in 1754, is on the side of the green fronting the hall.

An estate called Bleak End Farm, belongs to the right hon. the earl of Essex.

Church. The church is a small ancient building, in very good repair, dedicated to St. James. In the tower there are three bells. There was a priest here at the time of the survey of Domesday, which is a sufficient evidence that there was also some place of worship, and probably a parish; but the present church is believed to have been erected in the time of king Henry the second, when sir Baldwin Wischard was lord of this place.

This church was originally a rectory, till Baldwin Wischard gave it to the priory of Little Dunmow, when a vicarage was instituted, which remained in the patronage of the prior and convent till the dissolution, when, in 1536, the rectory and advowson of the vicarage were granted, by king Henry the eighth, to Robert, earl of Sussex;

* Arms of Piccott: a griffin rampant, wings displayed; on a chief three escallops. Crest: a greyhound courant.

but, three years afterwards, it was removed from the patronage of the earl, and granted to John Maxey, esq. of Saling Hall. CHAP. V.

In the reign of Edward the first, Amicia Baynard gave two acres of land in Little Raynes, to light the altar of the Virgin Mary, in the chapel in Sailing churchyard. Altar of the Virgin.

An annuity of twelve shillings and four pence was given by Emmeline, widow of John Knight, esq. out of a tenement called Mares, for one obit for ever. Charity.

This parish, in 1821, contained three hundred and twenty-six, and, in 1831, three hundred and sixty-seven inhabitants.

STEBBING.

From Great Saling this parish lies south-west, and is bounded southward by Felsted; extends westward to the junction of the hundreds of Hinckford and Dunmow; eastward, to Pantfield and Rayne; and northward, to Little Saling. It is computed to be twenty-six miles in circumference; the situation is on high ground, and much of the soil light and fertile.* Stebbing.

In records, the name is written Stabinge, Stebinge, Stebings, Stebbings, Stebinge, Stibingham, Stobinge, Stubing; the latter syllable is believed to be *ing*, meadow or pasture, but the other part of the word is not so clearly understood.

There are several mills on the stream that flows through this parish toward Chelmsford, and the village contains some good houses, and a place of worship for dissenters of the denomination of Independents. It is distant from Braintree five, and from London forty miles. There is an annual fair here for fat calves and other cattle, on the 10th of July.

There are two apparently artificial mounts, on the highest of which is traditionally said to have been a castle, but of this there is no historical evidence.

The lands of this parish were in the possession of a Saxon thane, named Siward, in the time of Edward the confessor, and at the general survey belonged to Henry de Ferrers, and Ralph Peverel, two Norman lords. What originally belonged to Ralph Peverel formed the larger half; yet the lordship of the whole seems to have always been in the family of Ferrers, to whom also the estate of Stebbing Hall was ultimately conveyed. Stebbing Hall.

Ralph Peverel married Maud, whose mother was the beautiful daughter of Ingelric, a Saxon nobleman, founder of the collegiate church of St. Martin-le-Grand, in London. The offspring of this marriage were, Haman, one of the barons of Roger de Montgomery, earl of Shrewsbury; William, castellan of Dover, and founder of Hatfield Priory, called Hatfield Peverel; and Pain, standard-bearer to Robert Courthose in the Holy Land, and to whom king Henry the first gave the barony of Brune, in Cambridgeshire. He was succeeded by his son William, whose successor, of the

* Average annual produce per acre—wheat 25, barley 38, oats 32 bushels.

BOOK II.

Ferrers
family.

same name, driven from the country on account of the murder of Ralph, earl of Chester, left this and his other estates to the disposal of king Henry the second, who granted Stebbing Hall to John, earl of Mortain, brother to the fugitive earl. It was afterwards, by marriage, conveyed to the family of Ferrers, with whom it remained during several generations, till sir Edward Grey, son of Reginald, lord Grey, of Ruthin, married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Henry Ferrers, of Groby. He was one of the commissioners appointed by the Conqueror to survey the county of Worcestershire, and held two hundred and ten lordships, five of which were in Essex; his chief seat was Tutbury Castle, in Staffordshire. Robert, his son, was his successor; who, for his magnanimous conduct in the battle of Northallerton, was created earl of Derby by king Stephen. On his decease, in 1139, he was succeeded by his son Robert, earl of Derby, founder of the abbey of Merevale, in Warwickshire, where he was buried, wrapped up in the hide of an ox. His son, William Ferrers, succeeded, and marrying Margaret, daughter of William Peverel, earl of Nottingham, had by her Robert and Walcheline de Ferrers, lord of Eggington, in Derbyshire. Robert, earl of Derby and Nottingham, by Sibilla, daughter of William de Braose, of Brecknock, had William; Melicent, married to Roger Mortimer, of Wigmore; and Agatha, concubine to king John. This earl, and Maurice Fitz-Geoffrey, were the founders of Tilty Abbey. His son, William Ferrers, accompanied king Richard the first to the Holy Land, and died at the siege of Acre in 1191, leaving his son William, who, by a special charter, was created earl of Derby, and girt with a sword by the king's own hand, being the first on record so honoured. Lands were given to him formerly belonging to Ralph Peverel, but which had gone to the crown. He married Agnes, sister and co-heiress of Ralph, earl of Chester, with whom having lived seventy-five years, they both died in the same month, in 1246. William, son and heir of Ralph Peverel, by Sibil, a co-heiress of William Mareschal, earl of Pembroke, had seven daughters; and marrying, secondly, Margaret,* one of the co-heiresses of Roger de Quincy, earl of Winchester, had by her Robert, his successor; and William, seated at Groby, in Lincolnshire; he also had by her Joan, married to Thomas, lord Berkley. Robert, succeeding his father, was the last earl of Derby of the Ferrers family, who, joining the barons against Henry the third, was taken prisoner at Chesterfield, and by authority of the parliament, stripped of his vast possessions, which were given to Edmund, the king's second son. After suffering three years' imprisonment, his estates were restored, on condition of his paying to prince Edmund, on a certain day, fifty thousand pounds, which not being able to do, his sureties made over these lands to the prince and his heirs for ever.†

* She held this manor, with those of Woodham Ferrers and Fairsted, in dower.

† The original charter has been preserved, and was formerly in the possession of Peter le Neve; the only seals remaining attached to the labels, is that of Henry Alemania, which is a lion rampant within a

In 1251, William, the son of William, and brother of the said Robert, received from his father the manors of Woodham, Stebbing, and Fairsted, with one messuage in chiche, whereby these estates were retained in the family, when the rest were confiscated. This William Ferrers, the son, had also the manor of Groby, in Leicestershire, the gift of his mother, Margaret, daughter and co-heiress of Roger de Quincy, earl of Winchester. By Joan, daughter of Hugh le Despencer, William de Ferrers had William, and Anne, married to John, lord Grey of Wilton. William, his son, succeeded him on his decease, in 1324; whose son and heir was Henry de Ferrers, of Groby: he, in 1338, obtained a charter for a market, to be holden every Monday, at his manor of Stebbing; and a fair on the eve and day of St. Peter and St. Paul, and two following days. He died in 1343, leaving William de Ferrers, of Groby, his heir; who, by Margaret, daughter and co-heiress of Robert de Ufford, earl of Suffolk, had Henry: his second wife, Margaret, daughter of Henry de Percy, survived him, and held the third part of the manor of Stebbing in dower till her decease.

Henry de Ferrers succeeded his father, (who died in 1371,) and marrying Joan, daughter of sir Thomas Poynings, had William, and Thomas:* he died in 1388. William, his son and successor, had a son named Henry, who died before him, leaving a daughter named Elizabeth, to whom her grandfather William left the estate of the Ferrers, in this county;† which she, by marriage, conveyed to sir Edward Grey, second son of Reginald lord Grey, of Ruthin, who, in consequence of this connexion, bore the title of lord Ferrers of Groby, to distinguish him from lord Ferrers of Chartley; on his decease, in 1457, he left sir John Grey, his heir, created lord Lisle; Reginald, slain in the battle of Wakefield; and Ann, married to sir Edward Hungerford. Sir John Grey married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Richard Widvil, earl Rivers, and was killed at the battle of St. Albans, in 1460, fighting for Henry the sixth; he left two sons, sir Thomas and sir Richard. Their mother Elizabeth, prostrating herself before king Edward the fourth, to petition his clemency in behalf of herself and children, by her appearance and demeanor so powerfully excited his sympathy and affection, that he made her his queen. Her son, Thomas, was advanced to the dignity of earl of Huntingdon and marquis of Dorset; but, in the reign of

bordure, charged with bezants and circumscribed, + Sig. Henrici fil. R. Regis Romanorum; and that of William de Valence, viz. Barry an orle of martlets, circumscribed, + Sig. Willi. de Valence. The other sureties were John, earl of Warren and Surrey, Roger de Somers, Thomas de Clare, Thomas Walraund, Roger de Clifton, Hamon le Strange, Bartholomew de Sudley, Robert de Briwer.—See *Dugdale's Baronage*, vol. i. p. 263.

* Previous to his decease, he, by will, left the manors of Stebbing, Woodham Ferrers, Fairsted, Merks, and Blounts, to Robert, bishop of London, and others.

† Thomas, the other brother, enjoying all these lands, which were entailed on the male heirs. From him are descended the lords Ferrers, of Chartley and Tamworth.

BOOK II. Richard the third, being attainted of high treason, he fled into Flanders, and attaching himself to Henry, earl of Richmond, was by him, when he became king of England, restored to his estates and honours. He married Cicely, daughter and heiress of William lord Bonvil, by whom he had seven sons and eight daughters. The eldest son, Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorset, succeeded his father. By Margaret, daughter of sir Robert Wotton, of Bocton, in Kent, he had Henry, his successor; John, of Pirgo, in Essex; Thomas; Leonard; Elizabeth, married to Thomas lord Audley, of Walden; Catharine, married to Henry Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel; and Anne, the wife of Henry Willoughby, esq. of Wollaton, in Norfolk; the marquis died in 1530, possessed of the manors of Stebbing and Woodham Ferrers. His eldest son Henry, marquis of Dorset, was created constable of England during the coronation of Edward the sixth, and, in right of his lady Frances, eldest daughter of Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, by the princess Mary, third daughter of king Henry the seventh, queen dowager of Lewis the twelfth, king of France, was created duke of Suffolk in 1551. He had by her lady Jane, married to Guilford Dudley, fourth son of John, duke of Northumberland, and proclaimed queen of England on the death of Edward the sixth, by which she and the duke lost their lives: her father was also beheaded in 1544, for joining sir Thomas Wyatt; previous to which he had conveyed the manor of Stebbing to sir Robert Southwell, who, in 1545, sold it to king Henry the eighth, who exchanged it with sir Giles Capel, of Rayne Hall, for lands in Hertfordshire, Middlesex, Cambridgeshire, and the moiety of Reves Hall, in the parish of East Mersey, in Essex. This estate has continued in the noble family of Capel to the present time.

Porters
Hall.

The manor house of Porters Hall is an ancient building, with a moat.

This estate formerly belonged to the Peverel family, at least the chief part of it: John de Stebbing, a younger branch of the Ferrers family, held it of the honour of Peverel, in the time of king John; afterwards it was in possession of families surnamed Dunstabil, Umfravil, Porter, and Badlesmere; and was ultimately incorporated into the estate belonging to the Essex family.

Church
and
manor of
Priors
Hall.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a large and lofty building, with a nave, side aisles, and chancel; it is very pleasantly situated on an eminence, at the highest part of the village. The chancel has two aisles, and is exceedingly well lighted. This church has lately received an addition of one hundred and forty free sittings; the incorporated society for the enlargement of churches and chapels having granted thirty pounds towards defraying the expense.

The living was originally a rectory, annexed to the chief lordship here, holden by the Ferrers family; and, in the time of king Henry the second, William de Ferrers, earl of Derby, gave this church to the knights hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem, the grant being confirmed by his son Robert, on which the rectorial great tithes

were appropriated to their house, and a vicarage ordained, of which the hospital continued patrons till the dissolution of their order, when this rectory was given to the crown, and, in 1543, was granted, with the advowson of the vicarage, to Thomas Cornewall, whose descendant, Humphrey Cornewall, in 1567; sold them to William Tiffin, who, in 1575, sold them to William Fitch, esq. from whom they passed, in 1585, to William and Bartholomew Brook, who, in 1601, conveyed them to John and Thomas Sorrel, in whose family they remained till John Sorrel,* jointly with his mother Dorothy, sued a fine, and gave this family possession to John Lane, of Norfolk, who gave it to his son, Roger Lane, who dying unmarried, it came to his father and mother, for the term of their lives; and, after their decease, became the property of Roger, the son of Francis, second son of Henry Mansir, who sold this possession to Arthur Batt, merchant, of London, who, on his decease in 1731, left it to his brother, Christopher Batt, esq. of Salisbury; and it now belongs to Thomas Batt, esq. who, in right of the rectory, is also lord of the manor of Priors, or Friars Hall, so called as formerly belonging to the prior of the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem.

There was a chantry in the church of Stebbing, founded by sir John Bultell, clerk, and endowed with lands and tenements in this parish. Also an obit, endowed by the founder, John Gunnock, with a tenement and sixteen acres of land. These were both of them granted to Thomas Golding, esq.†

Chantry
and obit.

In 1821, this parish contained one thousand three hundred and eleven, and, in 1831, one thousand four hundred and thirty-four inhabitants.

FELSTED.

This parish occupies the south-west corner of Hinckford hundred, on hilly ground, exceedingly healthy and pleasant: its Saxon name, Fell-ſtede, a hilly place, is accurately descriptive; it is in records written Feldelsted, Felestelda, and Phensted. It is a large parish; the soil, a strong wet heavy loam, on a whitish clay marl,‡ requires draining, and the singular mode of cultivation termed crop and fallow.§ The river Chelmer separates this parish and the hundred from Dunmow westward, and the village of Felsted, on the banks of this river, is distant from Dunmow town three, and from London thirty-six miles.

Felsted.

Algar, the celebrated earl of Mercia, was the possessor of this lordship in the time

* Arms of Sorrel: Gules, two lions passant, ermine. Arms of Lane: Argent, three chevronels, sable.

† The following arms were painted on the windows of this church: Edmund Crouchback, earl of Lancaster; Bohun; Vere; Warren, earl of Surrey; Fitzwalter; Louvain; Quincy; John Holland, duke of Exeter; and Umfraville; which last was, or, a fretty gules, charged with six cinquefoils, azure.

‡ Felsted-water was a chalybeate spring in this parish, formerly found useful in nervous and other diseases; but it has been undeservedly neglected.

§ The prevalent course—1 fallow, 2 wheat, 3 fallow, 4 barley. Average annual produce per acre—wheat 22, and barley 36 bushels.

BOOK II. of Edward the confessor, and, on his decease in 1059, was succeeded by his son Edwin, who, on the accession of the Conqueror, was deprived of this possession, which was given to the monastery of the Holy Trinity of Caen, in Normandy.

Felsted Bury.

The manor of Felsted Bury is that which belonged to the abbey; Richard the first, and Henry the third, granted them free-warren here, but they had no cell in Felsted, this house being subservient to that in Pantfield, and passing with it on the partial and general suppression of alien priories: on which last event this estate was given, by Henry the fifth, to the monastery of Sion, in Middlesex, founded by him in 1413, and dedicated to St. Saviour, St. Mary, and St. Bridget, for nuns and priests; and this lordship and advowson of the church continued in that house till the general suppression of religious houses.* Agnes, the last abbess of this house, in 1537, alienated by special licence, among other things, to sir Richard Rich, chancellor of the court of augmentation, the manors of Felsted and Graunt Courts, and one messuage in Felsted, to hold of the king by fealty only, by him and his heirs, for ever.

Graunt Courts.

The manor of Graunt Courts, mentioned in the grant, was part of the manor of Felsted, to which it has since been united. It had a very large mansion-house, on rising ground, near the road from Rayne to Dunmow. The name was derived from an ancient family, who flourished here in the time of Henry the third and of Edward the first.†

Havering.

The manor of Havering, in this parish, was dependant on Felsted Bury; but the mansion-house is in Rayne. There was also another estate holden of Felsted Bury, which was sold by Roger Wentworth, of Codham Hall, to sir Richard Rich, who soon after had possession of all the considerable estates in this parish. Those already mentioned were included in the manor of Felsted Bury, with its appertenance: the following nominal manors and estates had no dependance on the abbey of Caen.

Glanvils, Laver, and Enfields.

Glanvils, Laver, and Enfields, constitute a nominal manor, which lies in the parishes of Felsted, Little Leighs, and Great and Little Waltham. Walter de Glanvil held messuages and lands here in 1329. Geoffrey was his son and heir, and he had also Margaret, married to Stephen Alistre, and Alice: Geoffrey succeeding his father, had an only daughter, Alice, married to John Naylinghurst, who died in 1542.

Enfields.

Enfields, or Glandfields, is a farm between Felsted and Hertford End; it was holden of the crown by John de Enfield, by the service of two pence per annum: he died in 1342, leaving his son Robert, his heir; he had also a daughter named Agnes.

* On the suppression of the alien priories, their possessions were not suffered to be alienated to the laity till the total dissolution of religious houses, by king Henry the eighth.

† Sir Walter Graunt Court was witness to a deed of sir William Pikot, of Salinges, in the commencement of the reign of Henry the third; and Thomas de Graunt Court and Simon de Felsted held of the abbess of Caen some lands here called Bortheya and Ralpeya, with a park. William de Graunt Court was one of the barons of the exchequer in 1268.—*From Old Deeds, and Madox's Hist. of the Exchequer.*

William de Enfield was high sheriff of Essex in 1356. From this family it passed to the Tyrells, from whom it was conveyed to sir Richard Rich. CHAP. V.

The manor of Frenches has the mansion on the great common, near the windmill, where the court was held in the gravel pit. It passed, with the other estates, to lord Rich. Frenches
at the
Fairy.

The mansion-house of Whelpston was on an eminence, near the road to Lee's Priory; it was in the possession of Thomas de Helpston in 1358, and another of the same name was high sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1366. In 1373, it was holden by Edmund de Helpston, and, in 1540, was sold by Edward Bury, of Hadleigh, in Suffolk, to sir Richard Rich. Whelp-
ston, or
Helpston.

The mansion-house of Camseys is at the extremity of the parish, near Hertford End, on the border of Great Waltham. In Domesday this manor is called Keventuna, and, in other records, Camsey Hall, or Kamseke, Kemesec, Camsee, and Keusec. Camseys.

In the reign of king Henry the second, it belonged to Geoffrey de Mandevil, earl of Essex, and was held under him by Henry de Camse, as a knight's fee: he also held the manor of Samford. Edmund Kemsek is mentioned in the records as under-tenant here to John de Balencomber, lord of the manor of Samford; he had also lands in Tilbury in 1288: his son Edmund was his successor, who, by Joanna his wife, had Petronilla and Isabel, to whom he left his estate. Petronilla, the elder sister, on her decease in 1313, gave her portion to Isabel, who, being married to Robert de Wells, Joanna, her mother, the widow of Edmund de Kemsek, left her grandson, Philip de Wells, heir to the family possessions, on her decease in 1331.

In 1536, this lordship, with the site of the priory of Leighs, or Lees, was granted, by king Henry the eighth, to sir Richard Rich, who died in 1556, in possession of an immense estate, collected from the spoils of the monasteries. He had here Felsted Bury, and Graunt Courts; Enfields, and Glanfields; Whelpston; Frenches, and Camsey-barnes; the rectory and advowson of the vicarage; tenements named Butlers or Gales, Rumbolds, Otefield, and with various other possessions, including such of the demesnes of Lees Priory as extended into the hundred of Hinckford, and the most valuable part, indeed nearly the whole of this parish. On the decease of Robert Rich, earl of Warwick, in 1659, without surviving offspring, his brother Charles became his heir, who also died childless, in 1673, leaving Mary his widow, sister of the celebrated Robert Boyle, esq.; on whose decease, in 1678, the great estates of the family were divided between the co-heiresses of the two last earls of Warwick, of the name of Robert. Of these, the earl of Nottingham had in this parish only the nominations to the free-school and almshouse; the earl of Scarsdale had Whelpstons; the earl of Manchester had that part of the priory estate which lies in this parish, and which was sold to the duke of Buckinghamshire, whose heir, sir Charles Sheffield, alienated it to Guy's Hospital, being part of Lees Priory, the Lodge, and Pond Park. But the most considerable portion of the estate in this parish belonged to the share of John lord Roberts, of Truro, in right of Lucy, his lady, namely, Felsted Bury, Grand Lord Rich

BOOK II. Courts, Camseys, Enfields, Lavers, and Frenches, with the rectory and advowson of the vicarage, and various farms.* This estate was sold by John, earl of Radnor, to ——— Vandembendy, and John Rotherham, esq. in trust; and these gentlemen conveyed it to sir Josiah Child, knt. and bart. from whom it descended to sir Richard Child, earl Tilney, of Castlemain, and now belongs to the hon. W. L. P. Wellesley.

Numerous estates in this parish have been detached from the great Warwick estate, and some of them are no longer distinguished by their ancient names.

In the remains of Lees Priory, there are two sides of one of the quadrangles, and a gateway, with an octagonal tower at each corner, and embattled turrets. The other parts of those remains have been converted into a farm house. Distinct traces of a very extensive fish-pond yet remain at some distance from the priory, and the fisherman's house is entire, and inhabited.

A large house on the side of Thistley Green bears the name of the Priory Lodge, or Lodge Farm; and the habitations by which Bunster Green is surrounded, form a considerable and pleasant village.

Church. The church, dedicated to the Holy Cross, is on ground considerably elevated, and has a nave and two side aisles, and a chancel, on the south side of which there is a chapel, built by Robert, the second lord Rich, with a vault, the burial place of the Rich family. A lantern rises from the top of the tower, which is embattled, and contains five bells.†

The incorporated society for the enlargement of churches and chapels having granted fifty pounds towards the expense, an addition of seventy free sittings has been made to this church.

Obits. There were two obits in this church, of which one was endowed with a piece of land called Dunstal: the other, founded by Robert Collins, was endowed with two acres and a half of land. They were both granted by queen Elizabeth to William Tipper and Robert Dawe.

Chapel of Camseys. Formerly there was a free chapel, called the chapel of Camseys, or Hertford chapel, of which the prior and convent of Leighs were patrons: it was dedicated to St. Margaret. It is not known who was the founder of this chapel, but was supposed to be very ancient, and erected by some of the Kemsec family, near Hertford End. In the London Registry it is called "Capella de Hertford in parochia de Felsted." The lands belonging to it were granted, by queen Elizabeth, to Edward Wymark, in 1591.

* He was the son of Richard Roberts, esq. of Truro, in Cornwall, and appears to have been reluctantly compelled to receive the honour of the baronial title in 1624; as it is stated in the ninth article of the impeachment of the duke of Buckingham by the house of commons, that, "knowing the said Robert to be rich, he forced him to take that title of honour; and that in consideration thereof, he paid ten thousand pounds to that duke's use."

† Three escutcheons in the east window of the chancel bear the arms of John of Gaunt, Rich, Devereux, Bouchier, Bohun; the earls of Gloucester, Hereford, and Chester; Mandeville of Essex, Louvain, Widville, Marshall, Ferrers, Quincy, Baldry, Cropul, Verdun, and Paganel.

Against the south wall of the chapel there is a superb monument to the memory of Richard lord Rich, the generous founder of the school and almshouse, who died in 1567. It is composed of various kinds of beautiful and costly marble, and rises to the height of thirteen feet. A whole-length effigy of lord Rich, in his chancellor's robes, is placed in a reclining posture under a grand cornice, elegantly decorated and supported by corinthian pillars. The arms of this noble family in relief, of inimitable workmanship, under the cornice, surrounded by various emblematical devices, extend along the east and south walls, and an angelic figure is seen above the cornice; there are large plates of brass inlaid in fine marble tablets, with engraved devices not easily explicable; and upon the western side, the figure of a person in a posture of devotion is supposed to represent the son of the nobleman here interred. This monument appears never to have borne any inscription.

On the south floor of the chancel a brass plate on a black marble bears the effigy of an infant, and the following inscription:

“ Thomas Ryche, filius Roberti Ryche, militis, obiit 1564; et sepultus est apud Felsted, 4^o. Febr.”

There were also interred here, in 1580, Richard, son of the right hon. sir Robert Rich: in 1619, Richard, earl of Warwick, and, in the same year, the honourable lady Lettice, daughter of Robert, earl of Warwick. Lady Rachel Montague, daughter of the earl of Manchester, was buried here on the thirtieth of July, 1704; and there is the following inscription, bearing the date of 1639:—

“ Robertus Cromwell, filius honorandi viri militis Olivari Cromwell et Elizabethæ uxoris ejus, sepultus fuit tricesimo die Maii, et Robertus fuit eximie pius juvenis, deum timens supra multos.

“ Robert Cromwell, son of that honorable and gallant hero Oliver Cromwell and Elizabeth his wife, was buried on the thirtieth day of May. The said Robert was a youth of exemplary piety, fearing God more than most.”

On stones on the ground are the following:

“ Here lies the body of the reverend and truly pious Thomas Woodrooffe, sometime the worthy pastor of this parish, over which he faithfully presided thirty-three years. As he was a bright ornament to the place he filled whilst alive, so at his death he proved a kind benefactor, in bequeathing to this vicarage twelve pounds per annum, for ever. He died much lamented, Oct. 13, 1712, aged fifty-seven.”

“ Here lyeth the body of Dionysius Palmer, gent. who departed this life the first of August, an. Dni. 1630, aged 63 years.”

A small plate of brass probably bore the arms of Palmer.

On the north wall of the chancel:

“ In a vault in this church are deposited the remains of Mr. George Andrews, of Felsted, who died May 6, 1742, aged 77 years: by his wife Essex, daughter of the rev. Thomas Woodrooffe, formerly of Lee Park, in this county, he had two children, Margaret and George. She died Jan. 2, 1748, aged 85 years, and

BOOK II. with her children is also buried here. Margaret was born in Oct. 1703, and died March 14, 1765; George was born May 7, 1706, and died Jan. 17, 1791.*

“ Here lies the body of Thomas Boteler, who married Sydney Humphreys, daughter of Henry Humphreys, of Caernarvon, esq. He died ye 10th of Aug. 1688, atat. sua 73.”†

Charities. Arthur Wilson,‡ esq. gave an annuity of five pounds four shillings for two dozen of bread weekly, to be distributed to the poor every Sunday, for ever.

Dionysius Palmer, esq. gave two pounds twelve shillings yearly to purchase bread, to be given weekly to the poor.

Mr. Tanner gave the same sum, for the same purpose.

In 1690, Mrs. Sidney Boteler, of Felsted, gave seven pounds twelve shillings yearly, payable out of a certain meadow in Felsted, of which two pounds twelve shillings are for a dozen of bread, to be given weekly to the poor: two pounds eight shillings yearly to clothe three boys and three girls: and two pounds twelve shillings for teaching the said poor children to read English, and instructing them in the Protestant religion.

The rev. Thomas Woodroffe, vicar of Felsted, on his decease in 1712, augmented this living by a bequest of twelve pounds a year. He also left to the vicar a meadow of nearly twenty acres, chargeable only with Mrs. Boteler's charity of seven pounds twelve shillings.

Free-
school.

In 1564, Richard lord Rich founded a free-school in Felsted, with provision for a schoolmaster and usher. He ordered that the master of this school should be a clergyman, chosen by the heirs of the founder, to teach eighty male children, born in Essex; the usher to assist in teaching, and neither the master nor usher to be absent above eight days in a quarter, without good excuse; and if either master or usher be removed, another to be appointed in six weeks, otherwise the bishops of London may collate. If the chaplain (or master) of this foundation has any other spiritual promotion besides what is the gift of the heirs of the founder, he is to be removed. The churchwardens are to pay thirteen shillings and four pence for a sermon to be preached every Whit Sunday in the afternoon; and on Low Sunday the churchwardens are to make out their accounts before the heirs, or any one whom they

* Arms of Andrews: Gules, a saltier vert, fimbriated or, in chief a crescent or, impaling argent between a chevron three crosses pattée fitchée, gules. Crest: On a wreath of the colours a blackamoor's head.

† Arms of Boteler: A fesse chequy between six cross crosslets, in chief a bird; impaling a chevron charged with a mullet between three cross crosslets fitchée.

‡ He was a native of Suffolk, and a gentleman commoner in Trinity College, Oxford, where he took the degree of A.M. in 1633. After leaving the University, he travelled through Spain, Italy, Germany, and France, with Robert Devereux, the last earl of Essex of that name, who manifested a friendly attachment towards him, and engaged him to write the life of king James the first, which was printed at London in 1653. After the death of the earl, he was received into the family of Robert, earl of Warwick, and became his steward. He died at Felsted in 1652, and is buried in the chancel of the church. *Wood's Athen.* ed. 1721, vol. ii. col. 153.

shall appoint, with the vicar of Felsted and the master and usher, or two of them, and two other honest persons of the parish. The churchwardens to pay six shillings and eight pence to the vicar for his trouble. CHAP. V.

The present patron is the earl of Winchelsea, and there are no exhibitions or church preferments belonging to this school: it has a field of about two acres and a half, with a good garden, and a convenient school-house on the south side of the church fronting the street, and the institution is in a very flourishing state. The statuteable salary of the master is fifty pounds, and fourteen pounds by a subsequent grant of the earl of Nottingham, of which three pounds are to be annually put in the foundation chest.*

The same benevolent nobleman also founded an almshouse in this parish for six poor people, with an orchard, brewhouse, barn, and other out-houses, and a sufficient quantity of pasture land in Felsted, for keeping six milch cows towards their maintenance; and a grove of wood, with liberty to cut firewood, with other advantages and conveniencies for the comfortable subsistence of five poor, weak, old, impotent, and lame persons; and a grave woman to attend them, and provide, dress, and prepare their meat and drink, and wash and cherish the said five poor people, to the utmost of her power. If the heir puts no person in a place vacated within one month's time, the chaplain or churchwardens may place one. The woman of the house removed on account of weakness or incapacity, to have the next place of the five that falls vacant. Alms-house.

The following corn rents are payable quarterly for the support of the almshouse:

<i>Bush. of wheat.</i>	<i>Bush. of barley.</i>	<i>Bush. of wheat.</i>	<i>Bush. of barley.</i>
From Bloomfield Parsonage . . 18 29		From Matching 18 33	
Braintree 16 16		Morton Farm . . . 4 4	

Four bushels of each to be delivered monthly, reckoning twenty-eight days to the month, to the six poor people; and five shillings and four pence each month to the housekeeper, and three shillings and four pence to each of the other five: the churchwardens of Felsted have ten shillings allowed betwixt them out of the Braintree parsonage rents. There also was originally provided yearly, out of the above rents, eleven barrels of white herrings, and eleven cades of red herrings, to be distributed to such poor, not in the poor's rate, on every Sunday in Lent, as follows: three barrels of white, and some part of the red, to the churchwardens of Much Waltham, for the poor there; two barrels and a cade to Little Leighs, and the remainder to the poor of Felsted.

In 1821, this parish contained one thousand seven hundred and twenty-four, and, in 1831, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-eight inhabitants.

* The following persons of celebrity were educated at this school: Isaac Barrow, D.D. mathematician and divine; John Wallis, D.D. under the learned Mr. Martin Holbeach; Thomas Cooke, a poetical and miscellaneous writer; also, Oliver, Richard, and Henry, three sons of Oliver Cromwell.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN HINCKFORD HUNDRED.

R. Rectory. V. Vicarage.
 † Discharged from payment of First Fruits.

P. C. Perpetual Curacy.
 * From Returns to Parliament in 1818.

Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Alphamstone, R. ..	Middlesex.	William Ward, D.D.	1812	11 0 0	Lord Chancellor.
Ashen, R.	Richard Yates, D.D.	1804	8 0 0	Ch. of D. of Lanc.
Belchamp Otten, R.	John Cox	1820	12 0 0	Incumbent.
Belch. Walter, V.	Oliver Raymond ...	1827	† 6 0 0	{ Trustees of S. R. Raymond.
Belch. St. Paul's, V.	Peculiar. ...	.....	....	14 0 0	{ D. and Chap. of St. Paul's.
Birdbrook, R.	Middlesex.	Jon. Walton, D.D. ...	1801	19 0 0	Sir W. Rush, knt.
Bocking, R.	Peculiar. ...	Ch. Barton, D.D. ...	1816	35 10 0	Archb. of Canterb.
Borley, R.	Middlesex.	J. P. Herringham. ...	1822	9 0 0	Earl of Waldegrave.
Braintree, V.	Bernard Scale	1796	† 12 3 4	.....
Bulmer, V.	V. Bel. Walter	1827	† 8 0 0	W. Bel. Walter, V.
Bumsted Steeple, V.	Hen. Stuart.	1801	15 2 1	Lord Chancellor.
Felsted, V.	J. Awdry.	1798	13 6 8	{ Hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley.
Finchingfield, V.	James Westerman. ...	1810	18 0 0	R. Marriot, Esq.
Foxearth, R.	Jere. Pemberton ...	1810	10 4 4½	Rev. J. Pemberton.
Gestingthorpe, R.	Charles Hughes	1804	13 6 8	{ J. T. H. Elwes.
sin. V.	Barrington Syer. ...	†	7 0 0	.....
Gosfield, V.	Under sequestration	....	† 8 0 0	D. of Buckingham.
*Halstead, V.	William Adams, D.D.	1804	17 0 0	Bishop of London.
Hedingham Cast. P.C.	H. D. Morgan. ....	....	Not in charge	L. Majendie, Esq.
Hedingham Sib. R.	Henry Warburton. ...	....	22 0 0	Corn. Stovin, Esq.
Henny, Great } R.	C. J. Carter.	1810	13 6 8	N. Barnardiston, Esq.
Henny, Little }	Thomas Mills.	1821	.....	.....
Lammarsh, R.	James Sperling	1803	12 0 2½	H. Sperling, Esq.
Liston, R.	Thomas Wallace ..	1800	12 0 0	W. H. Campbel, Esq.
Maplestead, Great, V.	James Sperling	1797	8 3 4	J. Judd, Esq.
Maplestead, Little, D.	J. Ware .....	....	C.V. 10 0 0	Mr. Davis.
Middleton, R.	Oliver Raymond ...	1823	8 0 0	{ J. T. Mayne, Esq. and three others.
Ovington, R.	Charles Fisher	1809	7 0 0	John Fisher, Esq.
Pantfield, R.	R. L. Page	1809	10 10 0	In the Page family.
Pebmarsh, R.	Under sequestration	....	10 0 0	Earl of Verulam.
Pentlow, R.	John Bull	1816	12 0 0	Rev. J. Bull.
Raine, R.	Hon. W. R. Capel ..	1805	14 13 4	Earl of Essex.
Ridgewell, V.	R. S. Joynes, D.D. ...	1816	10 0 0	Cath. Hall, Camb.
Saling, Great, V.	Bart. Goodrich.	1816	† 7 0 0	Goodrich family.
Shalford, V.	Richard White	1810	† 7 0 0	{ Pre. of Shalford in Wells Cathedral.
Stambourne, R.	James Hopkins.	1809	15 0 0	Ch. of D. of Lanc.
Stebbing, V.	G. Belgrave, D.D. ...	1802	† 12 0 0	Thomas Batt, Esq.
Stisted, R.	Peculiar. ...	J. B. Scale, D.D. ...	1792	22 0 0	Archb. of Canterb.
Sturmer, R.	Middlesex.	William Hicks	1829	8 10 0	Duke of Rutland.
Tilbury near Clare, R.	Charles Fisher	1809	8 0 0	John Fisher, Esq.
Toppesfield, R.	Charles John Gooch	1828	26 0 0	The King.
Twinsted, R.	Robert Gray	1793	6 0 0	Lord Chancellor.
Weathersfield, V.	John Walker	1814	14 2. 0	Trin. Hall, Camb.
Wickham, St. Paul, R.	Peculiar. ...	William Gibson	1779	9 0 0	{ D. and Chap. of St. Paul's.
Yeldham, Great, R. ...	Middlesex.	E. W. Clarke	1832	20 0 0	Sir W. B. Rush, knt.
Yeldham, Little, R.	Robert Gray	1802	8 0 0	Lord Chancellor.

CHAPTER VI.

HALF HUNDRED OF FRESHWELL, OR FROSHWELL.

THE half hundred of Freshwell extends to the northern extremity of the county, to Haverhill and Linton, on the borders of Suffolk, and of Cambridgeshire: southward it is bounded by parts of Dunmow and Hinckford, eastward extends to Hinckford, and westward to Uttlesford. In its form, this half hundred is long and narrow; from north to south ten, and from east to west, where broadest, six miles.

Half hundred of Freshwell

The name is supposed to be from a spring or rivulet, which has its source in a valley near Radwinter, and is remarkable for containing abundance of frogs; in Saxon, *frrocx*; and in German, *frosh*. This stream pursues its course through the Samfords, and afterwards falls into the river Pant. It contains the following nine parishes: Bardfield, Great; Bardfield, Saling; Bardfield, Little; Samford, Little; Samford, Great, with the chapelry of Hemsted; Bumsted Helion; Radwinter; Ashdon; Hadstock.

GREAT BARDFIELD.

The Bardfields are three contiguous parishes, of which this, as the name imports, is the largest; in length it is about two miles, and in breadth one; separated from Hinckford hundred northward by the Pant, or Blackwater; westward extending to Saling Parva, and southward to Bardfield Saling. The town is small, yet it is the most considerable in this half hundred, and consists of two streets, in which there are several good houses. The situation is pleasant and healthy, on elevated ground, rising from a small stream that flows toward the river Pant, and is well stored with roach, dace, and other fish. An eminence between Park Gates and the church, on the road to Braintree, presents a pleasing view of the surrounding country, in which are seen the spire of Thaxted church, the two Samfords, Hemsted, Finchingfield, and part of Wethersfield; and from the town in various directions, there are many other agreeable walks and fine prospects. Two rooms in an old house, named the Place,† are memorable as having been the secret retreat of the princess Elizabeth, when she was attempting to escape from the unnatural persecution of her bigot sister, queen Mary.

Great Bardfield.

Town.

* Camden's Britan. in Essex. And in W. Harrison, in Holinshed's Chron. vol. i. p. 107.

† Edward Bendlowes resided in this house, and is buried in the chancel of the church.

BOOK II.

The soil of this parish is a fruitful heavy loam, on clay; on the north and west it is lighter, and sandy.*

There are two manors in this parish.

The town had formerly a market on Tuesdays, and has at present a fair yearly, on the twenty-second of June. The distance from Braintree is nine, from Dunmow seven, and from London forty-two miles.

Bardfield
Hall.

Bardfield Hall is on the south-east side of the church-yard: this manor belonged to Richard Fitz-Gislebert, or Gilbert, at the time of the survey; the same person is also named Richard de Tonebruge, in that part of the record which relates to Kent, where he was lord of that castle and manor. On his decease he was buried at Gloucester, and succeeded by Gilbert, his eldest son, who became earl of Clare, and died in 1132. The fourth in succession was Richard, who had the earldom of Gloucester, in right of his lady Amicia, daughter and heiress of William, the former earl of that city; he was also earl of Hertford, in right of his father. The last male heir of this family was Gilbert de Clare, surnamed the Red, earl of Clare, Hertford, and Gloucester: he was slain at the battle of Bannockburn, on the eighth of July, 1314, on which event his three sisters became co-heiresses of his very extensive possessions.† Elizabeth, the youngest, had this estate. She died in 1359, having had three husbands, the first of whom was John de Burgh, son of Richard de Burgh, earl of Ulster, the father of her only daughter Elizabeth, who conveyed this and other extensive possessions, by marriage, to Lionel, third son of king Edward the third, in her right earl of Ulster, and created duke of Clarence in 1362. He died in 1368, leaving his daughter Philippa, his heiress, who, by marriage, conveyed this manor to Edmund Mortimer, earl of March; and her grandchild Anne, married to Richard de Coningsburgh, earl of Cambridge, conveyed it to that nobleman: he was the second son of Edmund de Langley, fifth son of king Edward the third, and in his mother's right it descended to her son by this marriage, Richard, duke of York, father of Edward the fourth, king of England.

Gilbert
family.

In 1539, king Henry the eighth granted the burgh of Bardfield to his queen, the lady Anne of Cleves, for her life; and, after her decease, this lordship remained in possession of the crown, till king Edward the sixth, in 1550, granted the manor and lordship, and borough of Bardfield, to sir Thomas Wrothe,‡ on whose decease, in 1573, he was succeeded by his son sir Robert, whose successor was his son, the second

Wrothe
family.

* Average annual produce per acre—wheat 26, barley 32 bushels. Some hops are grown here.

† The family had very large estates in this county.

‡ The court for the borough was distinct from that of the manor of Bardfield, and used to meet in the Town-house or chamber over the Market-cross; and the grant to sir Thomas Wrothe included an annual rent for the tenth of the lordship and manor of Bardfield, with the burgh and parks, and the manors of Chigwell and West Hatch; Luxborough and Loughton were also part of the family possessions.

sir Robert, in 1605; whose only son, on his father's decease in 1614, being only five weeks old, and dying in 1616, his estates descended to his father's brother, John Wrothe, esq. who, in 1621, sold this estate (at that time comprising the Great and Little Park) to sir Martin Lumley, knt. sheriff of London in 1614, and in 1621, lord mayor of that city. He built an elegant mansion on the site of the keeper's lodge, and at the time of his decease in 1634, had, besides this manor, extensive possessions in this parish, in Wethersfield, and the Salings.

Lumley
family.

The family of Lumley, or Lomeley, also written Lomelin, was of Italian original, of great antiquity, and nobly descended, deriving their surname from Laumelin, in the dutchy of Milan. Dominico Lomelini, the first who settled in England, was gentleman of the privy-chamber to king Henry the eighth, and commanded a troop of horse at the siege of Boulogne. In 1560, he had the grant of an annuity of two hundred pounds. James, his son, was an eminent merchant, and died in London in 1592, leaving his son, sir Martin Lumley, the purchaser of this estate, who, on his decease in 1634, left his son, Martin his heir, created a baronet in 1640, and elected member of parliament in the same year. He married Jane, daughter of John Meredith, esq. of Denbighshire, by whom he had his only daughter, Prudence, married to sir Roger Mostyn, bart. His second lady was Mary, daughter of Edward Alleyn, by whom he had Martin, Thomas, and James, of whom the two last died unmarried. Sir Martin, the eldest son and heir, marrying Anne, daughter of sir John Langham, knt. had by her his son Martin, and a daughter, who died young. Sir Martin, the son, succeeded his father on his decease in 1702. He married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of sir Richard Dawes, of London: secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Chamberlain, esq. of Gray's-inn: thirdly, Elizabeth, daughter of Clement Rawlinson, esq. of Sanscale, in Lancashire. By his first lady, sir Martin had Martin, who died young, and Anne, married to sir Stephen Anderson, bart.: by his second lady he had James, and Elizabeth, married to the right rev. Dr. Cecil, bishop of Bangor. Sir James succeeded his father, who died in 1710; and, in 1725, an act of parliament was procured for vesting his several estates in trustees, to be sold for the payment of his own and his father's debts and legacies; and a second act was also passed for the same purpose in 1729, when Bardfield Lodge, with the parks and several manors, were purchased by Edward Stephenson, esq. who had been a governor in the East Indies. This lordship afterwards became the property of Jones Raymond, esq. The Great Lodge was pulled down, the stables converted into a farm-house, all the inclosed lands disparted, and the remainder of the Lumley estates, consisting of Great Bardfield Hall, Coxhills, Claypit Hall, Little Lodge, and the Bushets, all capital farms, were purchased for the use of Guy's Hospital.*

* Arms of Lumley: Or, a chief gules. Crest: On a wreath, an eagle displayed, sable, beaked, legged, and crowned, or.

BOOK II.

Pitley.

The manor of Pitley was also named Pitsea, Pitsey, and Packley, and formed part of the estate here which originally belonged to Fitz-Gilbert, and was given by his son, Gilbert, earl of Clare, to the abbey of Bec, in Normandy; or, according to records, to the priory of Stoke, near Clare, which was a cell to that abbey. After the suppression of religious houses, king Edward the sixth, in 1551, granted this estate, with woods called the Marsh and Pinkwell Grove, to his preceptor, sir John Cheeke, who was deprived of it by queen Mary, in 1556; and it was granted, in 1557, to Henry Vavasor and others. It belonged afterwards to Thomas French, esq., and to John Owen in 1636; and a proprietor of the name of Plumb forfeited this estate to the crown for having killed a bailiff. It was granted away by king Charles the first, and a proprietor of the name of Haslefoot gave it to the company of haberdashers in London, charged with the following payments: eight pounds for the better support of a weekly lecture at Cold Abbey; to twenty poor housekeepers of the haberdasher's company, twenty pounds; to four hospitals, twenty pounds; to Ludgate, Newgate, and the two Compters, ten pounds; and ten pounds to the company and officers, as a stock for laying up corn.* The manor-house is in Little Bardfield.*

Park Gates is an estate in this parish, which for a considerable time was in possession of the Searle family, of whom the last was William Searle, buried here in 1692.

Church.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is at a short distance from the town; it is built of stone, with a nave and north and south aisles leaded, the chancel tiled. A tower of stone, with five bells, supports a tall wooden spire, leaded.

This church was given to the abbey of Bec, in Normandy, with the manor of Pitley; which grant was confirmed by Thomas Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, and by the bull of pope Alexander the third, dated June, 1174. The great tithes were appropriated, and a vicarage ordained in 1214; by a composition between the monks of Stoke† and the vicar here, the vicarage was endowed with the small tithes, and the tithe of hay, and tithe of corn to the value of five marks, or the money, at the option of the vicar; with all the tithes of corn and pulse out of the prior's demesnes, except the garden. On the dissolution of the convent and college of Stoke, this church and advowson of the living were granted, by king Edward the sixth, to Anthony Bouchier and John Wiseman, esqs., who conveyed them to William Bendlowes, serjeant-at-law, who, in 1556, obtained a licence to convert the vicarage into a rectory; and having leased out the great tithes for five hundred years, at twenty marks yearly, settled on the rector and his successors the yearly sum of six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence, being one moiety of the twenty marks. The other moiety he employed in founding a chantry, with the licence and authority of the bishop of London, and the dean and chapter of St. Paul's; it was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and the priest

Chantry.

* Strypp's Survey of London, b. 5. p. 65.

† This priory being a cell to the foreign abbey.

was to pray for the souls of king Philip and queen Mary, living and dead; also for the souls of Christopher Bendlowes and Elizabeth his wife, father and mother of the founder; for whose soul, and that of his wife Alienor, prayers were also to be offered up for ever. In 1588, the lands belonging to this chantry were granted, by queen Elizabeth, to Edward Wymark.

CHAP.
VI.

There were also three obits in this church.

Obits.

Serjeant Bendlowes died in 1584, and with Alienor, his second wife, lies buried under the south window of the chancel. Their portraits are engraved on a plate of brass, but much defaced, as is also the following inscription:

Inscriptions.

"Mole jaces tectus gelidi, Bendlose, sepulchri,
Tuta jacent pietas, jusque, legesque simul.
Aula dedit patrii juris quæ semina primum
Læta bibi celebris Lincolnensis erat.
Illa juventutem generosa stirpe creatam,
Quæ juri studium sedulo navat, alit.
Auxit in immensum vigili concepta labore
Sedulitas, studii laurea fama comes.
Turba prius sidum vocitat plebeia patronum,
* * * * *
Hinc fit ut ad decus eximium conscendit et amplum,
Factus qui legi serviat unus erat.
Consultor fidus causas agit ille clientum,
Patronum ut cupiat quilibet esse sibi.
Lintea confestim capiti concessa, superstes
* * * * *
Servieris qui gereres ad legem unus eras.
Nec solum evasit solus, sed fama secuta est,
Sic mansit per tres septuaginta dies.
Solus et à mensis quindena luce Novembris,
Ad Januas sextum vicesimumque Diem.
Ast annus regni Mariæ regnante Philippo

Reginæ sextus quintus et hujus erat.
Anxerat huic, Bendlose, satis tua lauta suppelles;
Quæ tibi, quæ multis, parta labore fuit.
Parta fuit multis, multis quia profuit ille,
Quid dederis, narrat narrat egenus opem.
Non erat è multis, unus sed is omnibus unus.
Profuit et patriæ, lux erat ille suæ,
Sic patriæ vixit magno dum vixit honore,
Sic patriæ magno, concidit ille malo.
Ergo teget tumulus, reteget quid terra cadaver.
• Bendlosi volitat fama per ora virum.
Terra teget terram, mens summis mentibus hæret
Vita perennis ave, vita caduca vale.
Qui legis hos versus nostras adverte ruinas,
Disce carere malo, disce timere deum.
Corpora debentur morti, mens querat Olympum,
Semper et Authorem cogitet illa suum.
Nunc teneas portum, valeant ludibria mundi,
Optima Mors salve, pessima vita vale.
FINIS.
Obiit mortem 19 die Novembris, Anno Domini
1584, annoque regni Elizabethæ reginæ 27."

in English:

"Cover'd by the cold sepulchral mound, O Bend-
lowes, dost thou lie,
Safely with thee lie piety, equity, and laws together.
Pleasant was to thee the celebrated Lincoln's Inn,
Which first furnished the seeds of thy country's ju-
risprudence.
Youth sprung of a generous race, does it cherish,
Such as sedulously apply themselves to legal pursuits.
Immeasurably what by vigilant labour was under-
taken
Industry encreased, with laurelled Fame as the com-
panion of Study.

First asks the plebeian crowd a faithful pleader,
* * * * *
Hence happened it that he reached pre-eminence
and fulness of honour,
Being made the sole serjeant-at-law.
A faithful counsellor, he so manages the causes of
his clients,
That every one is desirous of securing him as his
advocate.
The honour being forthwith conferred, thou wert
left
The only one of thy rank who administered the law;

BOOK II. Nor was he in this solitude alone; his fame also followed him :

So did he remain for three and seventy days,
And was alone from the fifteenth day of the month
of November,
To the twenty-sixth of January.
Now the year was the sixth of queen Mary,
And the fifth of Philip's reign.
Hitherto, Bendlowes, sufficiently had thy splendid
furniture accumulated,

Which to thee, which to many, (because to many he
was aidful)

Relates what assistance thou hast furnished to the
needy.

Not one of many was he, but the only one of all.

He was beneficial to his country, and its light.

So to his country, while he lived, he lived with great
honour,

So to his country's great detriment did he fall.

Therefore let the tomb cover the body which earth
shall again deliver up,

Bendlowe's fame soars through the mouths of men.
Let earth cover earth, the soul to loftiest souls clings
fast.

Immortal life, all hail! Corruptible life, farewell!

Thou who readest these lines, mark our decay.

Learn to be free from guilt, learn to fear God.

Bodies are due to death, let the soul seek heaven,

And always let it think upon its Author.

Now you steer for the haven, bid earthly vanities
farewell.

Hail thou best of all things, death! Farewell thou
worst of all things, life!

THE END.

He died the death on the 19th day of November,
in the year of our Lord 1584, and in the 27th year of
the reign of queen Elizabeth."

Charities.

A free-school was founded here by serjeant Bendlowes, and endowed with an annuity of ten pounds: this has been advanced to about thirty pounds per annum, and additional benefactions have been added..

A pigtle, or inclosure, of three roods, was given to the poor by J. Smith. And there is also a house for the use of the poor.

The sum of thirty shillings is given annually to the poor, instead of a dole of herrings. The poor of this parish have also an annuity of twenty shillings, out of the manor of Nichols, in Shalford.

In 1821, this parish contained eight hundred and eighty-seven, and, in 1831, one thousand and twenty-nine inhabitants.

BARDFIELD SALING.

**Bardfield
Saling.**

This small parish, which extends southward from Great Bardfield, unites with the parish of Great Saling, and has been named Bardfield juxta Saling; and also Little and New Saling, and Bardfield Saling.

In the time of the Saxons it was in the possession of two servants of a thane named Wisgar; but afterwards became the property of Richard Fitz-Gislebert, whose under-tenant was named Wielard. The village is five miles from Great Dunmow.

There are two manors.

Wastails.

William de Wastail, who married Maud, one of the daughters of Stephen de Beauchamp, lord of the manors of Lammarsh and Twinsted, was the possessor of this manor, which derives its name from him: in the time of Edward the third, the recorded lord of Wastails was Ralph, the son of William Fitz-Ralph, knt. by whom it was granted to William, vicar of Great Saling; and this grant was afterwards trans-

ferred to John, son of Walter de Oxenhey, of Little Rayne; it was, during a considerable period, in possession of the Maxey family, of Bradwell and Old Saling. John Maxey, esq. died in 1546, and was succeeded by Anthony, his son, successively followed in this possession by sir Henry Maxey, sir William, Greville, and Anthony Maxey. The next following possessor was Martin Carter, esq.; and, in 1717, Hugh Raymond, esq. succeeded by Jones Raymond, esq.

In 1329, Robert, the son of John Wymer, held the manor which is distinguished by his family name: the style in which he is mentioned in records is that of Wymer of Offington. In 1581, Christopher Purple became possessed of this estate, succeeded by his son of the same name; from whose family it was conveyed to sir James Lumley, and with part of his estate, was sold to Guy's Hospital. Wymers.

The church or chapel was dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul in 1380, and the inclosure or cemetery where it stood was consecrated the following year, by the bishop of Pisa, commissioned by Courtney, bishop of London, and in 1384, confirmed, by Robert de Braybroke, his successor, who also sanctioned an agreement between the vicars of Great Bardfield and the inhabitants of this hamlet, by which it was stipulated that the latter should "yearly, on the feast of the ascension, and the dedication of the mother church, make their accustomed offerings; and that they should also bear a third part of the third part of the charge belonging to the lordship's quarter, towards the repairing or rebuilding of the said church; in return for which, the inhabitants of this hamlet or parish should have liberty of burying in their said chapel or chapel-yard; and, on non-performance of the conditions of this agreement, the chapel and chapel-yard to be interdicted till satisfaction be made:" among the patents of the twenty-second of Richard the second, there is an exemplification of the composition made between the vicar of Great Bardfield and the parishioners of Bardfield Saling. Church.

In the reign of king Henry the eighth, this parochial church or chapel having been, by mistake, entered as a chantry, was, in 1546, with all that belonged to it, granted to Henry Needham, who soon afterwards, by the name of the chantry of Great Bardfield, conveyed it to George Maxey, esq.; on which, William Jenkinson, chaplain of the chapel of ease of Great Bardfield, with the churchwarden* of the chapel and other inhabitants, brought a suit in chancery against George Maxey, esq. for the recovery of the chapel and lands belonging to it; and, in 1554, it was determined by sir William Paulet, lord keeper, "that the chapel and yard should be for the use of the inhabitants of this hamlet; the chaplain to be nominated by George Maxey and his heirs, with the consent of the chief inhabitants. The chaplain shall enjoy the tenement called the priest's house, a garden, a little croft, and the church-yard; that he shall enjoy all the small tithes, offerings, and oblations, in as ample a manner as any incumbent enjoyed them before, in the memory of man; all which were then esteemed worth seven

* The name of churchwarden in the record proves this church to have been parochial.

BOOK II.

pounds yearly, besides the priest's house, croft, &c. or to be made up so much, by George Maxey, who was to hold those tenements, called Lucknors, Hulls, Allponds, and Purley, and all other lands and tenements formerly belonging to the said chapel, except such as have been before excepted." George Maxey, esq. died in 1558, but this decree was not ratified, till his son, in 1574, alienated this ecclesiastical estate to William Bendlowes, serjeant-at-law, who gave it to the inhabitants, for the maintenance of the word preached, divine service, the administration of the sacraments, and other rites of holy church; and he endowed it with the priest's house, a garden, orchard, and croft, with all tithes of hay, wool, lamb, pig, goose, calf, sheep, fruit, oblation, and other spiritual rights and customs; and also an annual rent of three pounds to the chaplain. The inhabitants to repair the chapel and chapel-yard, and the patron to have the nomination of the chaplain.

Altar.

In 1424, Catharine, lady of the manor of Old Hall, in Little Rayne, married to Richard Downman, esq. gave, by will, an annuity of three shillings and four pence, in honour of St. Margaret the Virgin; from whence it may be inferred that a private altar here was dedicated to that saint.

In 1821, this parish contained two hundred and eighty-two inhabitants, which, in 1831, had diminished to two hundred and fifty-nine.

LITTLE BARDFIELD.

Little
Bardfield.

From Great Bardfield south-eastward, Little Bardfield extends north-westward to Little Samford, and east and westward to the extremities of the half hundred: the road to the Samfords passes here over a fine open and well-cultivated country; the soil generally light and sandy. The labouring population, almost entirely dependant on agricultural employment, has considerably diminished in number during the last ten years. Among the few good houses here is the parsonage, a handsome brick building, about three quarters of a mile from the church, on the road toward the Samfords; it was erected by the rev. T. Bernard, M.A. during his incumbency. Distance from Thaxted three, and from London forty-three miles.

There are two manors.

Little
Bardfield
Hall.

The paramount manor-house of this parish is a handsome building near the church. The parish or lordship, in the time of Edward the confessor, belonged successively to a thane named Norman, and to Ingelric; and, at the time of the survey, was holden under Eustace, earl of Boulogne, by Adelolf de Merk, or Merks. In 1210, his descendant, Henry de Merk, held three knights' fees, here, at Latton, and at Shortgrove, near Newport.* His successors were Henry, in 1268, whose son of the same name was followed, in 1274, by Alda, daughter of Geoffrey Dynant. Andrew de Merk held it in 1283, and Henry de Merk held it at the time of his decease in 1291:

* Peter le Botiller also held half a knight's fee in this manor, of the honour of Boulogne.

and, in 1351, king Edward the third granted a licence to Clement de Rumburgh to give this manor and advowson of the church to the abbot and convent of St. John's, in Colchester, with liberty to appropriate the church to their use.

In 1539, this estate having become vested in the crown, was granted to Robert Foster, esq. who disposed of it to William Chishul, esq. of an ancient family: he died in 1570, holding this possession, and also Moad Hall, and the manor of Fitz-Ralph, in Halstead. His successor was his son Giles, whose son and heir, William,* sold the estate to John Buttal, whose son Christopher sold it to Thomas Wale, esq. son of Thomas Wale, of Radwinter, by his wife Jane, daughter of Richard Westley, of Hemsted.

Wale, or De Wale, is the surname of a family seated in Northamptonshire, in the reigns of Edward the second and Edward the third; and sir Thomas Wale, highly distinguished in the wars of this last monarch, was one of the first knights of the garter, on the institution of that noble order, and rendered this family illustrious. He died in Gascony, in 1352.†

Wale
family.

Thomas Wale, the purchaser of this estate, married Elizabeth, daughter of Geoffrey Nightingale, esq. of Newport Pond, by whom he had eight sons and two daughters: on his decease in 1659, he was buried here, and succeeded by Henry, his fifth and oldest surviving son, whose son John was the next in succession: Henry Wale, his son and heir, married Elizabeth, daughter of James Clarkson, esq. of Tendring, by whom he was the father of Henry Wale, esq. of Little Bardfield.

A large ancient manor-house, named Moad Hall, formerly stood between Bardfield Hall and a farm called the Hide; it was also named Mole Hall, and More Hall: this building has been entirely destroyed. The estate is supposed to be what in the records of 1317 is stated to be holden of John Gacy, or Gency, and Roger Damory and Elizabeth his wife. In 1426, it was in the possession of John Gevey; of John Knesworth and Nicholas Hewysch, who purchased it of Henry Skinner and William Thymming, of Walden. In 1434, it became the property of Robert Boyton, by purchase: it also belonged to the family of Boteler, and was distinguished by the name of Botelers. John Chysel, or Chishul, was possessed of it in 1445, succeeded by William Chishull, whose son Giles was his successor, in 1570. In 1632, Israel Owen‡ died, holding this estate and the advowson of the church: his son, John Owen, was his successor, and, on his decease, left four daughters, his co-heiresses. The estate afterwards became the property of the Bernard family.

Moad
Hall.

The church, dedicated to St. Katharine, is a small ancient building, tiled, having a tower with two bells.

Church.

* Pedigree at the end of the old register of the parish.

† Barnes' history of king Edward the third, p. 299, 464. He bore for his arms, argent, a cross, sable.

‡ An estate in this parish, named Wanfords, was holden of Israel Owen, by John Botolphe.

BOOK II.

The advowson of the living being attached to the manor, passed with it to Thomas Wale, esq. in 1643; and he settled it on his son, John Wale, who, by will, devised it to be sold: it was consequently purchased, in 1663, by Robert Dawge, esq. of Loughton, who, in 1665, sold it to Thomas Lund, clerk, of Bayleham, in Suffolk: and he, in 1673, sold it to Thomas Bernard, esq. of this parish, who settled it on his son, Thomas Bernard, clerk, and his heirs: on his decease in 1718, it descended to his son, the rev. Thomas Bernard, who being patron, could not present himself; and not having made over his right, previous to the death of his father, on that account suffered a lapse, and was collated by the bishop. The diocesan frequently grants this favour, yet, in this case, a legal investigation was instituted, it being questioned whether the bishop could collate the patron before a lapse: the civilians divided upon it; Dr. Henchman was of opinion it could not be done, but Dr. Andrews thought it might. In previously suffering a lapse, there is evidently this hazard, that if the diocesan should die before he had collated, the turn would be lost to the patron, and be transferred either to the archbishop or the king, who might present another. In an occurrence of this kind, it is therefore found best for the patron to pray or petition the diocesan to admit him.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and eight, and, in 1831, two hundred and ninety-five inhabitants.

LITTLE SAMFORD, OR NEW SAMFORD.

Little
Samford.

The two parishes named Samford, or Sandford, are believed to have formerly constituted only one possession, yet the time of their being divided is not known; they were found to belong to different persons, at the survey of Domesday. The name is written in records Sanford, and Santford,* derived, as is believed, from a sandy ford across the stream, which in its course, as it enlarges and becomes a river, assumes the name of Pant. This parish lies between Little Bardfield on its southern extremity, and Great Samford northward; and extends from Radwinter on the west to Hinckford hundred eastward; it is estimated to be four miles from east to west, and from north to south three miles. The clay soil of this district is considerably diversified, and contains a good proportion of sound arable land; the roads, formerly described as among the worst in the county, have been much improved. Little Samford is distant from Saffron Walden four, and from London forty-five miles.

In the time of the Saxons, this lordship was in the possession of Wisgar; and at the survey, belonged to Richard Fitz-Gislebert, from whom the earls of Clare and Gloucester descended: it was afterwards holden of the honour of Clare and Gloucester by the service of two knights' fees. There are three manors.

* Samford, and particularly Sappford, are considered to be unauthorised vulgarisms, as is also Saford: this place is also called New Samford.

Little Samford Hall is a fine old mansion, near the church, on considerably elevated ground, rising from the stream named Freshwell. This elegant seat has lately been put in complete repair by the present proprietor, general sir William Eustace. There is a park and a considerable extent of woodland belonging to the estate; and on elevated ground, opposite to Little Samford Hall, a handsome newly-erected mansion is the seat of John Hinxman, esq.

CHAP.
VI.

Little
Samford
Hall.

The earliest recorded possessors of this manor after Fitz-Gislebert were sir Peter de Taleworth, and sir Peter his son: it was part of the fourteen knights' fees held by them under the earls of Gloucester and Hertford. In 1262, Roger de Taleworth and Roger de Bechesworth held lands, according to the record, in "Little Samford, in Esse," of Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford, which, in 1314, were in the possession of Richard de Taleworth and Roger de Bechesworth. Successive proprietors were William de Clopton and sir Simon de Swanland, knt. who sold it to William de Pampesworth, in 1347; what belonged to William de Clopton was one knight's fee and a half, and Simon de Swanland's share was three quarters of a fee. The estate afterwards belonged to sir Thomas and sir Richard Tendring; and, in 1391 and 1392, William Bateman held it of the earl of March.* Margaret, the daughter and heiress of William Bateman, by marriage, conveyed this possession to her husband, William Green, second son of John Green, esq. by his wife Agnes, daughter and heiress of John Duke, of Widdington Hall. William Green† died in 1488, and his wife in 1495, and are buried in the chancel of this church: sir John Green was their son and successor; they had also a second son, named David, who was rector of this parish, and two daughters. Sir John Green died in 1530; by his first lady, Anne Ratcliff, he had Edward, and Richard, who died in 1566, without issue. Sir Edward succeeding to the estate, died in 1554; by Margery, daughter of William Allington, his first wife, he had Rooke, Roger; Frances, Joyce, and Mary. Rooke Green, esq. marrying Eleanor, daughter of William Fitch, esq. of Little Canfield Hall, had by her four sons and eight daughters, and, on his decease in 1601, was succeeded by William, his eldest son, who marrying Katharine, daughter of Nicholas Timpernel, of Hintlesham Hall, in Suffolk, had by her four sons and four daughters; of these John, the eldest son, died before his father, having married Frances, daughter of sir John Russel, by whom he had Edward, Francis, John, William, Rooke, and

Tale-
worth
family.

Green
family.

* He was a great benefactor to the priory of Dunmow, and was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in the time of king Richard the second. He married Margaret, (daughter and co-heiress of sir William Coggeshall), who after his decease, was married to John Roppeley, and, at the time of her decease, in 1459, held this manor of Richard, duke of York. Her daughter Margaret, by her first husband Bateman, was married to William Green. Arms of Bateman: Sable, three lions couchant, two and one, argent.

† They died possessed of the moiety of this manor, (the other moiety belonged to sir Thomas Tyrell, son of sir John Tyrell, of Herons, in right of his mother Alianor, daughter and co-heiress of sir William Coggeshall.)

BOOK II. Katherine. In 1621, William, the father of John, dying, was succeeded by his grandson Edward, who, in 1660, was created a baronet: by his first lady Jeronyma, daughter and co-heiress of William Everard, esq. of Linsted, he had six daughters; by his second lady, Mary Tasborough, he had a son; and by his third and last, whose maiden name was Symonds, he had a daughter. He was the last of the family who enjoyed this estate, which he imprudently lost by gaming.* In consequence of which it was conveyed, in 1640, to William Halton, esq. created a baronet in 1642. He was the third son of Robert Halton, esq. of Sawbridgeworth, whose father was Robert Halton, esq. serjeant-at-law, in 1580. He was also heir and executor to his uncle sir William Halton, of Abington, in Cambridgeshire, the serjeant's second son. By his first wife, Mary, daughter of sir Edward Altham, knight, of Latton, he had Mary, who died unmarried; and sir William Halton, bart., his eldest son and successor in 1662, who sold this estate, with that of Tewes, to Edward Peck, esq. in 1670,† in whose family it continued till the decease of William Peck, esq. in 1745, without issue; when Thomas Stanton, esq., burgess of, and member of parliament for, Ipswich, married the widow, and purchased the reversion of this estate.‡

Tewes. Thomas de Tewes, whose arms§ and name appear in the east window of the north aisle of the church, was of an ancient family, from whom this manor has been named. The mansion-house is about half a mile from the church northward; yet this estate has generally gone with the chief manor, and has been in possession successively of the families of Tendring, Bateman, and Green; and of the Peck family; holden of the honour of Clare.

Friers. Friers, in the court-rolls written Frerys de Sanford; the manor of Jones, alias Fryers; Freres-Sanford, alias Sanford-parva, is about three miles distant from the church; it is named Friers, and Jones, on account of its having belonged to the brethren of the knights hospitallers of St. John of Jerusalem: in some deeds it is

* Arms of Green. Gules, a lion rampant, counterchanged, argent and sable. The Green family had great possessions in this county; at this place, at Widdington, Navestoke, Stanford Rivers, and especially at Shelly, in Ongar hundred.

† He was a younger son of William Peck, of Methwold, in Norfolk, and educated for the bar; was serjeant in 1674, and king's serjeant in 1675: marrying Grace, daughter and co-heiress of William Green, of Hertfordshire, he had by her William his heir, who married Gertrude, daughter of sir William Green, bart., of Mitcham, in Surrey, by whom he had eight sons, and three daughters; of whom, at the time of his decease in 1694, there survived him his eldest son William; Philip, who died in 1717; and Grace, wife of John Trenchard. William Peck, esq. was sheriff of the county in 1705; and married Bridget, daughter of Morgan Randall, esq. of Chilworth, in Surrey, by whom he had Randall, and eight daughters. On the decease of the father, in 1727, he was succeeded by his son William, sheriff in 1730; he died in 1745, having married Katherine, daughter of Thomas Thurston, esq., by whom he left no issue.

‡ Arms of Peck: Or, a chevron, gules, between three crosses pattee, or crosslets, of the field.

§ Arms of Tewes: Azure, a fesse charged with three plates, between two chevrons, argent: under them this inscription, "Ore p'le Alme Thomas de Tewes et Elizabeth son Femme."

called the hospital of Samford. Near the mansion-house the foundations of the ancient chapel may yet be traced, and the keeper of the hospital of Samford is mentioned in the record. The oldest remaining court-rolls of this house are of the year 1390, in which it appears that the manor had free-warren, assize of bread and beer, and view of frank-pledge. In the time of king Henry the third, Olivia, daughter of Geoffrey Fitz-Baldwin, wife of Remfre, son of Roger, was in possession of this manor, and after the death of her husband gave it to the knights hospitallers; which grant was confirmed by Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford;* it was granted, by Henry the eighth, to Richard Higham, esq., and he disposed of it to William Humphrey, who died possessed of it in 1573:† and it remained in possession of his descendants till the decease of Nicholas Humphreys, the last of the family. Afterwards this possession became the property of the Henniker family.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a plain stone building, with a nave, north aisle, and chancel, the whole leaded; with a lofty stone tower, having three bells, and above the tower a spire. The rectory belonged to Little Samford Hall, till it was sold by William Peck, esq. After whose decease, in 1727, a person was presented, in order to contest the title, assisted by the income of the living. The purchaser, however, got the affair compromised.

Church.

Geoffrey, son of Haman, gave two parts of his great tithes here, and the whole of his small tithes, to the priory of Stoke, near Clare; the gift was confirmed by archbishop Becket and pope Alexander the third: when that church became collegiate, this was assigned to a prebendary.

Ancient monuments on the north and south walls of the chancel, bear the following inscriptions:—

Inscriptions.

“Lo! in this tombe cunbyffed are thes toe bereft
of lyfe,

Sur Edward Greene, a famus knyghte, and Margerye
his wyfe.”

“Obiit Edvardus Greene, miles, vicesimo secundo
die mensis Junii, A.D. 1550.

Obiit Margery Greene, vicesimo quinto die Martis,
A.D. 1530.”

On a monument on the north side of the chancel, above which, in a niche, are

* From Mr. Holman's MSS.

† He was succeeded by a son of the same name, on whose decease, in 1592, he left his son William his successor: he also had Robert, John, Samuel, Anthony; Joan, Mary, and Ellen. The heir on his decease, leaving only two daughters, settled the estate on his brother Samuel, who became his heir in 1607. Samuel Humphrey, esq. was of Bocking, and was succeeded by Samuel his son, who marrying Anne, daughter of William Mascall, also left a son, Samuel, who by Elizabeth his wife left William, Robert, Nicholas, and Martin. The father in 1711, by will, left the estate to his eldest son; or in defect of issue, to his brothers: consequently, on his decease, his brothers William, Robert, and Nicholas followed in succession, but left no offspring. It was a family of some note and ancient, in this parish, and at Thaxted: The last-mentioned William was mayor of Thaxted in 1634, and John, his brother, was chief burgess in that town, and resided at Goldings.”

BOOK II. effigies of the persons commemorated, in devotional attitudes, with emblematical devices, is the following:—

“Hic jacet depositum Gulielmi Tweedy, armigeri, qui quondam sub augustissimæ memoriæ regina Elizabetha, in tumultibus illis qui a parte boreali, sedandis Angliæ: Dein sub invictissimi herois dñi. baronis de Willoughby, Galliæ: postremo sub illustrissimi comitis Leicestriæ, auspitiis, Belgiæ præfectus militum, meruit. Uxorem duxit primo Mabellam, Henrici Curwen, equitis aurati, ex comitatu Cumbriæ, filiam ex qua unum filium filiamq. unam habuit. Mox Margaretam Rooke Green, de Samford Parva, in comitatu Essexiensi, filiam de qua tres filios totidemq. bis filias genuit. Obiit vii die Julii, anno mdcv. Cujus anima requiescat in pace.”

In English:

“Here lies the body of William Tweedy, esquire, who distinguished himself as a military officer, first under queen Elizabeth of glorious memory, in suppressing the tumults in the north of England; next under that invincible hero the lord baron de Willoughby, in France; and lastly, under the auspices of the illustrious earl of Leicester, in the Netherlands. He married first Mabell, the daughter of sir Henry Curwen, knight, of the county of Cumberland, by whom he had one son and one daughter: and afterwards Margaret, the daughter of Rooke Green, of Samford Parva, in the county of Essex, by whom he had three sons, and twice as many daughters. He died on the seventh day of July, in the year 1605; whose soul rest in peace!”

In the north aisle there are several monuments belonging to the Peck family; the most magnificent of these is about twelve feet high, with an effigy of excellent workmanship, lying on a mattress, over which a scroll bears the following:—

“Sub hoc marmore conditur, quod mori potuit, decor scilicet, venustas, et forma perquam elegans, liberalis, et honesta, Brigittæ, lectissimæ et singularis exempli fœminæ: quæ virum habuit Gulielmum Peck, patrem Morganum Randyll, armigeros, hunc de Chillworth, in agro Surriensi; illum de Samford Hall in com. Essexia: his quæ, superstes, fuerat, egregium decus deliciarum: nunc longum, cheu, jacet, atq; ingens desiderium! defendenda universis! si tamen illi facienda fletu sunt funera, cujus amabiles mille amplius virtutes; æternum victuræ, per ora vocitabant omnium, quorum ad aures vel jam pervenerunt, vel olim sunt perventuræ; fuit quippe hæc, tamquam divinitus dotata, ad omne officium vitæ implendum, quæ Deum, quæ proximum, quæ semet ipsam spectaret, felicissime composita; filia eadem, uxor, parens, mater familias, optima; mira erat illi indolis suavitas, mirus ingenii candor: et, quod ægrè tenero illo in sexu vix reperias, mira, quotiescunq; res postularet, animi fortitudo in formandis liberorum moribus. Prudens simul mater et fertilis, (binos quippe pueros, puellas octo moriens reliquit) operam posuit hand infelicem; feliciorem indies positura. His studiis occupata nec cupida nec metuens sepulchri, tandem cælo matura, cæliq. monitis obsecuta decersit, Junii xiv, anno Dom. mdcxii, natu annos xxxi.”

Two lines of this inscription are illegible.

“Under this marble is deposited so much as *could* die (the comeliness, namely, the beauty, and the perfectly elegant, accomplished, and symmetrical figure) of Bridget, that choicest and indeed unrivalled model of a woman: who had for her husband William Peck, for her father Morgan Randyll, esquires; the latter of Chillworth, in the county of Surrey, the former of Samford Hall, in Essex: of both of whom, while living, she was the pride and the delight. Now she lies, alas! the object of their long and anxious desire, by all lamented! If, however, the obsequies of her, whose were these more than thousand

endearing *virtues*, must be observed with tears; *they*, destined ever to survive, shall frequently by the lips of all be repeated, whose ears they have either already reached, or are doomed hereafter to greet. For *this* lady was qualified, as it were, from above, for the discharge of every duty of life, in admirable conjunction, whether they related to God, to her neighbour, or to herself; at once the best of daughters, wives, parents, and mistresses. Wonderful was her suavity of temper; wonderful was her ingenuousness of mind; and, what is seldom to be found in the tenderer sex, wonderful, whenever circumstances required, was her fortitude of soul in the education of her children. A prudent at once and a fruitful mother, (for she left at her death two boys and eight girls) she applied herself to toils not ungratifying, with others still more so in prospect. Engaged in such pursuits, neither desirous of nor dreading the grave, being at length ripe for heaven, she, in obedience to a summons from thence, departed on the 14th of June, A. D. 1712, aged 81."

An elegant monument has the following inscription on a table of white marble:—

"In a vault near this monument lieth interred the body of William Peck, of Sampford Hall, of this parish, esq. a gentleman of most distinguished accomplishments, having lived with the devoutest piety towards God, suitable to the doctrines of the church of England, in the profession of which he lived and died; with an uncorrupted loyalty to his prince; with an unsullied faithfulness to his wife; and with the discreetest tenderness to his children. Virtues truly rare, in the age in which he lived. He married Gertrude, daughter of sir William Green, of Mitcham, bart. by whom he had eleven children, eight sons and three daughters, of which four only survived him. William married the daughter of Morgan Randall, of Surrey, esq.; Grace was married to John Trenchard, of Cutteridge, in Wilts, esq.; Gertrude, to the unspeakable affliction of her entirely loving mother, and the most sensible sorrow of her whole family, and all who knew her, was taken away, in the flower of her age, by the small-pox; being of a most pious, sweet, and engaging disposition. Philip still a single person.

"This monument was erected in the year of our lord 1713, to the grateful remembrance of her dear husband, and her daughter Gertrude, who lieth buried in the same vault, by Mrs. Gertrude Peck, his most affectionate relict, who lived the whole time of her life, wherein she survived him, a solitary and disconsolate widow. An uncommon testimony of the unextinguishable impressions of her affection for him, and indulgent concern for her children."

Another monument on the east wall bears the following:—

"Sacred to the memory of Mrs. Grace Trenchard, late wife of John Trenchard, of Cutteridge, in the county of Wilts, esq. and daughter of William Peck, late of this parish, esq. who died on the thirteenth day of October, 1770, about an hour after she had been delivered of a dead son. She was buried at Leigh, in Somersetshire, where her husband now enjoys a noble seat, and a very large estate. She was happy in a judgment infinitely superior to what is usually met with among the brightest of her sex; and of her many other extraordinary qualifications, none shined so bright as her exemplary piety, her inexpressible affection for her husband, her constant dutiful behaviour to her parents, her tender concern for the welfare of those for whom she professed a friendship, and her unwearied application to serve them. Her dear mother, who put up this inscription, would not have supported herself under this great affliction, but by the hopes she entertained of meeting her again at the joyful resurrection of the just."

A small mural monument bears the following:—

"In memory of Philip Peck, esq. whose affability to all mankind endeared him to all who were intimately acquainted with him, and procured him the esteem of all others who knew him. His natural wit, improved by a liberal education, rendered him capable of being an ornament either to the court or

BOOK II. camp; but being ambitious to serve his prince and the country at the greatest hazard, he chose the army, where he served with great reputation: and being on his command in Ireland, he died of the small-pox, on the 22d of June, 1717, in the 27th year of his age, and was buried at Dublin. This inscription was set up by his afflicted mother."

Charity. Gertrude, one of the daughters of William Peck, esq. of this parish, who died August 28, 1705, in the twenty-fourth year of her age, and is interred here, gave, by will, sixty-six pounds, six shillings, and eight pence to the poor, the interest of which is distributed in bread every Sunday fortnight.

This parish, in 1821, contained three hundred and sixty-five, and, in 1831, four hundred and twenty-three inhabitants.

GREAT SAMFORD.

Great
Samford.

From Little Samford, Great Samford extends northward to Hemsted, in which direction it measures about three miles; and the same from east to west, where it is bounded by Finchingfield, Thaxted, and Radwinter. The village has a pleasant and healthy appearance, containing some good houses, generally at a short distance from each other: * the inhabitants are principally engaged in the labours of agriculture, except such of the females as are employed in the straw-plat manufacture, which has been introduced here.

The road from Finchingfield to Saffron Walden passes through the centre of the village, and this being the nearest route to Cambridge from the Braintree quarter, it is much frequented, and kept in good repair. Distance from Cambridge twenty-one, from Bishop's Stortford sixteen, and from London forty-eight miles.

Formerly there was a fair here on Whit-monday, but all that remains of it are a few benches with toys. Gently rising grounds, with groves of oak, elm, and ash, and rich pasture and meadow land, bordering the rivulet of Freshwell, give a pleasing appearance to this part of the country. On the higher grounds, abundance of wheat, barley, and oats are grown, and sparingly turnips, where the land is found sufficiently light and sandy.† Water is abundant here, and of a good quality; the rivulet of Freshwell

* The air of this parish is very healthy, if we may judge from the advanced age of many of the inhabitants; and indeed there is generally not much sickness, considering its population and extent. The following statement gives the number and comparative ages of persons deceased in sixteen years:— 22 under 1 year; 22 above 1, and under 10; 22 above 10, and under 20; 26 above 20, and under 30; 8 above 30, and under 40; 9 above 40, and under 50; 13 above 50, and under 60; 15 above 60, and under 70; 22 above 70, and under 80; 11 above 80, and under 90; 3 above 90, and under 100; 1 age not entered.

† Mangel-wurzel has been grown, and suits some of the soil well, but the agriculturalists here have not become familiarised to the culture of this plant. A large portion of the land is arable, and the number of dairies have diminished, yet there are several, consisting of from fifteen to twenty cows, Bullocks, sheep, and calves, the usual stock of the Essex farmer, are bred here, and in the farm-yards turkeys seem to be preferred to geese.

has a wooden bridge southward from the church, and, in heavy rains and snow-thaws, frequently overflows and causes floods.*

The lands of this parish forming part of the royal demesnes, belonged, in Saxon times, to Edeva; and were given to Ralph de Guader, created duke of Norfolk and Suffolk by William the conqueror. This nobleman was the son of a Saxon, by a British lady born in Wales. His surname, De Guader, was derived from a castle in Brittany, where he had also another castle named Montfort: he is said to have been a native of Norfolk, and, in 1075, at Ixning or Exning, in Suffolk, married Emma, daughter of William Fitz-Osborn, earl of Hereford; sister of William, lord of Breteuil, in Normandy, and of Roger, son and heir of ——— earl of Hereford. At this marriage he was accused of uniting with Waltheof, earl of Huntingdon, in a conspiracy against the Conqueror, on which account he was deprived of this estate. The parish was divided into three manors.

The mansion-house of Great Samford is in the village, near the church, and on the same side of the way: one moiety of the estate was holden under the crown by the Roos family, and the other was granted by king Henry the second to a family surnamed Kemesec, who retained possession during several generations, till it was conveyed by females to the family of Welles, and passed successively to Coggeshall, Tyrell, Bateman, and Green.

Manor of
Great
Samford.

In 1210, Henry de Kemesec, son of Arnulf; and Derkin de Lare, held Samford, by the service of half a knight's fee; which, in 1284, was in the possession of Ralph de Kemesec, whose service for it was a whole knight's fee; Edmund, of the same surname, and probably his son, at the time of his decease, in 1287, and another of the same name, with Robert de Roos, in 1299, all held this possession by the same service. Matilda, wife of the said Robert, bore him two daughters, co-heiresses of this estate, of whom Petronilla died unmarried, in 1313, leaving her sister Isabel, wife of Robert de Welles, sole heiress; but Joan, second wife of her father Edmund, held the third part of this manor till her decease in 1331, her heir being William, son of Philip de Welles, who died in 1349, leaving his daughter Joanna, married to sir Henry de Coggeshall, his sole heiress: sir Henry died in 1375, and sir William, his son and successor, was living in the beginning of the reign of king Henry the sixth, having married Antiochia, daughter of sir John, son of the celebrated sir John Hawkwood, of Hawkwoods, in Sible Hedingham: on his decease he left four daughters, his co-heiresses; Blanch married to John Doreward, esq., Alice to sir John Tyrell,† of

* On these occasions the brook rapidly fills, and covers a considerable portion of the low meadow grounds, rendering the ford impassable. These floods would be considerably diminished by clearing away sand-beds and other obstructing matters, which might be usefully applied to the heavy lands.

† He was treasurer of the household to king Henry the sixth; his son, sir Thomas, held a moiety of this estate at the time of his decease in 1476, followed successively by sir William; sir Thomas Tyrell,

BOOK II.

Herons, Margaret to William Bateman, and Maud married first to Robert Dacre, esq. and afterwards to John St. George. This estate was the inheritance of Alice and Margaret, the latter of whom, on the decease of her second husband, John Roppeley, esq. held the whole of this manor, of which one moiety was held of the king as half a knight's fee, the other of William Roos:* her heiress was her only daughter Margaret, wife of William Green, esq. of Little Samford Hall: this lady, on the decease of her husband, held one half of the premises; her successor being her son, sir John Green, whose successor was his son sir Edward, who dying in 1554, his son Rooke Green purchased of Henry Tyrell, esq. the moiety of this estate belonging to that family, and on his decease in 1602 held the whole of this possession. William Gifford, of an ancient family in Buckinghamshire, and whose ancestor was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1318 and 1319, became the proprietor of this estate, which descended to his son John, who died in 1414, leaving Margaret his sister his heiress, who was married to John Chauncy, esq., son of William, baron of Scirpenbeck: John Chauncy, esq. their son, married Anne, daughter of sir John Leventhorp, of Sawbridgeworth, by whom he had John, Ralph, and six daughters, but how long it remained in the possession of this family is not known.

The demesne lands of this manor were afterwards divided among several proprietors, the nominal manor remaining with the Harvey family, till it was conveyed by the marriage of Emma, second daughter of the late Eliab Harvey, to general sir William Eustace, of Little Samford Hall.

Giffords.

The mansion-house of Giffords is in that part of the parish which is named Tinning-end; the old house was on an inclosure containing about two acres, and surrounded by a moat, at an equal distance from the new house and a farm-house called Godmail: it was holden of the chief manor, under the Roos family. Ellen, daughter of sir John, son of John, and grandson of Sacer de Roos, was married to sir Geoffrey Brockhole,

knight banneret, who died in 1510; Thomas Tyrell, esq., and Thomas his son, who dying in 1540, left Katharine and Gertrude, co-heiresses.

* The Roos family derive their surname from the lordship of Roos, in Holderness, in Yorkshire. Robert de Roos, lord of Helmsley or Hamlake Castle in that county, married Isabel, daughter and heiress of William de Albani, also named Todeney, lord of Belvoir Castle, in Rutlandshire, by whom he had William, Robert, and Emlin, married to William de Thany: sir Robert the second son, was knighted by king Henry the third: of his two sons, Robert and Sacer, the first was a knight templar, who after his return from Jerusalem, died in Yorkshire; from whence his portraiture was brought and deposited in the Temple church in London. Sacer de Roos, the younger brother, inherited this among the other family possessions: his two sons were Robert and John. Robert received the honour of knighthood, and in 1310 was representative in parliament for Hertfordshire. Sir John de Roos possessed this estate in the reign of king Edward the third; as did also Alice his widow, who died in 1375, and was succeeded by her grandson John de Roos, of Brockholes, in Radwinter. The noble family of Manners, duke of Rutland, derive the title of lord Roos from Alinore, eldest sister, and one of the co-heiresses of Edmund lord Roos, married to sir Robert Manners.

who, on her decease in 1419, left him two daughters, (in her right heirs of this estate of Giffords, also named Stanley);* Joan, married to Thomas Aspoll, and Margery to John Sumpter, of Colchester, whose son and heir was John, on whose decease, in 1425, he left a moiety of this manor to his daughters, Christian and Elene, by whom it was conveyed to their husbands; Elene to Ralph Holt, and Christian to Thomas Bernard, esq., and this lady dying without issue, the manor became the undivided property of her sister, Elene Holt.

This estate was next in possession of the family of Gifford, from whom it derived its present name. John Gifford dying without issue, it descended to his sister Margaret, who was married to John Chauncy, esq., and on her decease, in 1448, it became the property of her son of the same name, who left it to John his younger brother; the family retained it till the year 1547, and a short time afterwards it became the property of William Bradbury, esq., of Littlebury, who dying in 1550, left a son Robert his heir, whose younger brother Henry was his successor in 1576, and died in 1596, leaving William his son and heir. Afterwards it was successively the property of the rev. John Baker, in 1637; of the rev. William Byatt, rector of Foxearth; and in 1743 of John Piper, esq., of Ashen; from whose family it was conveyed by marriage to Henry Sperling, esq. of Dynes Hall.

A reputed manor in this parish has received the name of Roberts, or Free Roberts; the house is about half a mile from the church, on the road towards Hemsted: this estate was successively the property of Robert Mordaunt, esq. who died in 1572; of John Mordaunt, son of Philip, his son, who died in 1574, and whose brothers, James and Robert, were his successors. Afterwards the estate passed to the Harvey family.

Free
Roberts.

The church, dedicated to St. Michael, on a slight elevation in the centre of the village, at the junction of the Walden, Thaxted, and Finchingfield roads, is a large and handsome building of stone, and has a nave, and north and south aisles of equal length, covered with lead, and a square tower, flanked with stone buttresses, and parapeted at the top. The chancel is exceedingly well built with stone, and supported by buttresses, ornamented with niches, in which there are no figures remaining; the roof, rising high and acutely pointed, is covered with tiles. A capacious gothic arch separates the church from the chancel, on either side of which, as we enter, there are stone stalls, beautifully formed with clusters of three pillars, supporting elegant trefoil arches, retiring into the thickness of the wall; the beauty of some of them has been unfortunately obscured by unsightly pews. A very handsome gothic window, on the east end of the chancel, is believed to have been originally of stained glass, but none now remains: the windows in other parts of the church also exhibit superior workmanship,

Church.

* The manor was holden of Philippa, duchess of York, as of her manor of Wimbish; Elene had also the manor of Roos in Radwinter, and of Newhall in Asheldam.

BOOK II. but not agreeing with each other in dimensions or form, yet all in the gothic style. The whole building is lofty and capacious; the nave and aisles measuring in length forty-three feet, and in width forty-six and a quarter; the chancel, forty-seven feet ten inches in length, and eighteen feet nine inches in width. The aisles are separated from the nave by four pointed arches, supported by well-formed pillars; those on the north clustered, and those on the south octagonal. On the south side of the chancel there is a building, originally entered under an archway, nearly of its whole width, but which has been filled up with a plastered partition. This building, which is believed to have been the founder's chapel, is used as a vestry, and entered through one of the stalls. At the south end of this building, a spacious window has been destroyed, and the place filled up by a wall of bricks, below which there are the remains of a handsome tomb of highly ornamented gothic stone-work; its mutilated state is partly accounted for, from the circumstance of the recess which it forms having been many years used for a fire-place, without any outlet for the smoke, excepting the door; a proper fire-place has however been erected.*

Church-yard.

The church-yard forms a tolerably extensive inclosure, but having been entirely without trees, had a rather naked appearance; to remedy which, sir William Eustace, the present patron, has inserted some rows of young lime trees, which in time will prove highly ornamental.

William the conqueror gave the living of this parish, together with the chapel of Eure Hempsted, to Battle Abbey, which, in 1535, was parted from it, and became the property of Robert Mordaunt, esq. of Hemsted, in whose hands it continued till 1634, when it was conveyed to the Harvey family, and, by marriage of the daughter of the late sir Eliab Harvey, to general sir William Eustace, the present proprietor. It is a vicarage; the great tithes belonging to the dean and chapter of Canterbury.

Parsonage

There is a farm, called the Parsonage, also belonging to the rectorial part of the living; but there has been no vicarage-house for many years: formerly, the foundations of the original vicarage-house were visible at a short distance eastward from the church.

A glebe of about fifteen acres, belonging to the vicar, lies in various parts of the parish.

Chantry

There was a chantry in this church for a priest to sing mass, and to assist the parson in the cure; the revenues were granted by Edward the sixth to Thomas Tyrell, esq. in the year 1548.†

Obit.

The sum of three shillings and four pence was given yearly, out of Pound-mead, for a yearly obit; and from this, three shillings were to be given to the poor.

* The Registers are perfect from the year 1559, generally well and regularly kept, especially the earlier ones.

† They were collected from lands in Great and Little Samford, Hemsted, Little Bardfield, Debden, and Pantfield.

A black marble slab in the chancel is inscribed:

CHAP.
VI.

“ Hic jacet Jacobus Calthorp. Generosus, obiit 28 die May, Anno Domini. 1694, ætat. 65.”

Inscriptions.

Also memorial inscriptions, of John Burrows, gent. who died January 31, 1694, aged 53 years; of Thomas Burrows, gent. who died June 21, 1780; of Richard Burrows, gent. who died on the 2d of December, 1753, aged 35; of his wife Elizabeth, who died 24th of July, 1782, aged 66; of John Burrows, who died May 10, 1784, aged 34; and of Mary, who died May 7, 1786, aged 39 years.

Other inscriptions inform us that here a family vault was formed for Thomas Smith, esq. of Great Bardfield, in 1736; and that beneath a stone near the font is deposited the body of the Rev. John Gretton, A.B., son of the late Rev. Charles Gretton, A.M. rector of Springfield and Wicken Bonant, in this county, ob. March 2d, A.D. 1788, ætat. 34.

On an obelisk in the church-yard:

“ 1738. Put here by Jonas Watson, in pious memory of his father, Jonas Watson, who was buried near this place, July 4, 1693. Colonel Jonas Watson, who caused this stone to be erected, was killed at the siege of Carthage. The nature of that climate rendered it impossible to bring his body over, according to his own and his friends' desire. After having served his king and country upwards of fifty years, he lost his life with great honour, in the 58th year of his age, Anno Domini 1741.”

Mrs. Catharine Riley, who died in the year 1820, by her will, gave to the minister of Old and New Samford two hundred pounds, to be distributed by them, in such manner as they should think best; which legacy was paid in the year 1828, and has been laid out in the purchase of Bank Annuities; one half of the dividends of which is distributed amongst the poor of Great, and the other half amongst the poor of New or Little Samford, by the ministers of the respective parishes.

Benefactions.

The rev. W. Sworder was vicar of this parish from 1701 to 1726; he published, in 1703, An earnest Persuasive to the practice of Family Piety, and the Reasonableness of the Fast of the Thirtieth of January; on Matt. xxiii. 35, in 1706; three Sermons against practical Atheism and occasional Conformity; on 1st Kings, xviii. 21, in 1714; and a Funeral Sermon, on Phil. i. 21, in 1715.

Mr.
Sworder

In 1821, this parish contained seven hundred and fifty-six, and, in 1831, eight hundred inhabitants.

HEMSTED, OR HEMPSTED.

Hemsted, also written Hempstead, is a reputed chapelry to Great Samford, though in extent it considerably exceeds that parish, being in length four miles, and in breadth nearly three miles and a half; it lies between Great Samford and Bumsted Helion,

Hemsted.

BOOK II. bordering on Hincford hundred. The name is written Hamsted in Domesday, and in other records Hemsted and Hemstead, from the Saxon hem, or ham, a habitation or dwelling, and *stede*, a place: the present mode of writing this name Hempsted, or Hempstead, is that least authorised by analogy or ancient usage. Included in the strong wet land district, it has the general character of a tenacious clay on marle, yet, with land ditching and good management, proves in a considerable degree productive; and near the village and in many other places there is good sound land, and some of it dry enough for turnips.* This part of the country, including the two Samfords, Hemsted, and Radwinter, was formerly noted for large dairies, which have much diminished, many of them being employed in suckling calves, or fattening bullocks. This parish is well wooded, and celebrated for having produced remarkable timber-trees.†

The village consists of a small number of straggling houses, and the inhabitants are generally employed in the labours of husbandry.

Distance from Saffron Walden six, and from London forty-four miles.

Previous to the Conquest, Hemsted had no connexion with Great Samford; it was held, under Edward the confessor, by a thane named Wisgar; at the survey of Domesday, it belonged to Richard Fitz-Gislebert, whose under-tenant was Robert de Watevil. There are two manors.

Hemsted
Hall.

The ancient mansion of Hemsted Hall is about two miles distant from the church, north-eastward. This manor, from Richard Fitz-Gislebert, passed to one of the earls of Clare, who, at an early period, gave it to the De Veres, earls of Oxford,‡ and it was holden of them, as of their honour of Hedingham Castle, by the service of two knights' fees, but yet the earls of Clare remained lords paramount. Robert de Watevil, a descendant of sir Robert de Watevil, lived here in the reigns of king Richard the first, and of king John. The estate continued in this family till it was conveyed, by the marriage of Joan, daughter of sir John de Watevil, to sir William Langham, in 1341, who came and resided here, in his lady's right holding in Hemsted two knights' fees, under John de Vere, in 1358, and under Thomas de Vere, in 1370;

* Average annual produce per acre—wheat 22, barley 30 bushels.

† Arthur Young, esq. remarks, in his Agricultural Reports, "At Hempsted I viewed two immense oaks, one of which is apparently of very great antiquity; they are, unfortunately, both pollards, but the size is such as must astonish the spectator." Many years ago, the celebrated Hemsted oak measured in diameter, of the extent of the boughs, 36 yards from north to south, 35 from east to west, and in height 99 feet. Seven waggon loads of hay have stood under its shelter at one time. Also, on land belonging to sir W. Eustace, a wych elm, of a beautiful form, called the "High Tree," rises to an astonishing height.

‡ The grant was in these words: "Ricardus de Clare, Comes de Herteford, Omnibus, &c. sciatis quod clamo quietum Comiti Albrico, cognato mes, et heredibus suis, de me et heredibus meis, servitium de Emsted, viz. duorum militum." This deed was written in the reign of king Henry the second, but was without date.

their son, sir William,* succeeded his father, and this manor continued in the family till Alice, only daughter of Richard Langham, esq. by marriage, conveyed it to her son and heir, Sigismund Cotton, esq. succeeded, in 1541, by his son William, followed by his son George in 1561, whose son, Thomas Cotton, esq. succeeded in 1592. The last of the family mentioned in the record as holding this possession was Anthony Cotton, esq. in 1631: his immediate successors cannot be traced, owing, as is believed, to the confusion of the times. Sometime about the middle of the seventeenth century, this estate became the property of the Harvey family, seated at Chigwell, purchased either by the learned physician Dr. William Harvey, or by his brother, Eliab Harvey, esq. with Crochmans and other lands in this parish, and Woodhall in Finchamfield. After having remained in this family for many generations, the Hemsted Hall estate has been lately sold, and is now in the possession of the Houblon family, of Chigwell.

Gilbert le Moigne, of the family of that name, in Bumsted Steeple, held half a knight's fee here of the earl of Oxford, as of his honour of Clare: it was in the possession of Robert le Moigne in 1257 and 1258, and from this family the estate retained the name of Moynes.

The manor of Crochmans, also named in the record Winslows, alias Goldinghams, alias Free Roberts, had the mansion-house about half a mile north-west from the church or chapel of Hemsted: in 1332 it was holden of the house of Clare by John Grigge, esq. who left an only daughter named Egidia, married to William Crochman, who on his decease, in 1358, was succeeded in the possession of this estate† by his son John, followed by William Crochman his brother, and heir, in 1368;‡ who on his decease in 1391, left Mariota, his only daughter and heiress, married to Thomas Winslow,§ and afterwards to Thomas Holgyll. Mariota, on her decease in 1409, holding this estate, was succeeded by William Winslow, her son; who died in 1419, leaving, by Agnes his wife, Joan his only daughter, on whose decease in 1431, her cousin Walter Huntingdon became heir to this estate;|| Thomas his son did homage for it at Hedingham Castle in 1444, and died in 1498,¶ leaving by his wife Margaret, daughter of William Tyrell, esq. of Beches, in Rawreth, Margaret, married to John

Croch-
mans, or
Winslows

* His heir was his son John, who died before his father, in 1417, leaving his son George his successor; whose only son, Richard, was the father of Alice.

† This manor is stated to have been at that time in Hemsted, Great and Little Saziford, Finchamfield, Radwinter, Ashdon, and the Bumsteds Helion and Steeple.—*Inquis. 11 Rich. II.*

‡ Arms of Crochman: Sable, three cinquefoils, between nine trefoils slipt. Other accounts of the arms of Crochman describe them as three cinquefoils between eight cross crosslets fitchée.

§ Arms of Winslow: Ermine, on a bend gules, three escallops, or.

|| He was the son of John Huntingdon, son of Elizabeth, sister of William Crochman the younger, father of Mariota.

¶ Arms of Huntingdon: Party per fesse sable and argent, a fesse gules: in chief three mullets, or: the fesse party fretty, sable.

BOOK II. Parys, son of Robert Parys, esq. of Linton: and Anne married to William Mordaunt, of Woodhall, in Finchingham: by their marriage settlement, to which the Parys, father and son, were parties, this manor became the property of the said William and Anne Mordaunt; in whose family it continued till sir Charles Mordaunt, sometime previous to his decease in 1647, sold it, either to Dr. Harvey or to his brother Eliab Harvey, esq., and it is now in the possession of Miss Harvey, youngest daughter of the late sir Eliab Harvey. The hall, which was formerly an occasional residence of the family, is demolished; but the moat remains, and part of some out-houses form a cottage.

Blackdon. The hamlet and reputed manor of Blackdon, is about a mile north north-east from the chapel. Robert Watevil, by a charter without date, gave it to William, son of Isabel, as land in Hamsted; namely, the whole land of Blackdon, and the land which was Walter Chamberlain's, and the land which was Alwine's, the provost. It was granted by William, son of Isabel, to Aubrey de Vere, earl of Oxford, of whom, and of — Watevil, it was holden by John de Launde, in 1268; and belonged to George Westley, in the reign of king Henry the seventh: Richard Westley was his son, or descendant, and lies buried in the chapel; it afterwards was in the possession of Thomas Onyons, of sir Martin Lumley, bart. in 1637, and has since been purchased for the use of Guy's Hospital.

Chapel or Church. The church, or chapel, stands on a hill, nearly in the centre of the parish, and where there are the greatest number of inhabitants. It has a nave, and north and south aisles, a chancel, and a handsome tower, flanked with buttresses, ornamented with niches. The tower is lofty, and commands an extensive view towards the north, in which the church of Lavenham, in Suffolk, is visible. There are five musical bells.

The exterior of this church has a plain appearance, devoid of ornament; and a building on its northern side has been erected over the vault belonging to the Harvey family, a portion of which, appropriated to the vault, is used for the monuments: the other apartment is used as a school-room and a vestry, and for parish business.* The interior is highly ornamented and beautiful; four clustered pillars, supporting pointed arches, separate each of the aisles from the nave, and an arch under the steeple exhibits a handsome west window in perspective. The nave and aisles measure in length

* The Registers commence in the year 1664, and, with the exception of a year or two, are perfect down to the present time: the earlier entries are in a particularly neat hand-writing. From 1813 to 1829 inclusive, the Register shows the amount of baptisms to have been 326, of marriages 96, and of burials 170; and the following statement will show the comparative ages of those who have died in this parish during that period:—15 under 1 year; 17 above 1, and under 10 years; 13 above 10, and under 20; 15 above 20, and under 30; 15 above 30, and under 40; 10 above 40, and under 50; 10 above 50, and under 60; 15 above 60, and under 70; 35 above 70, and under 80; 19 above 80, and under 90; 8 above 90, and under 100; 2 ages not entered.

fifty-nine, and in breadth thirty-nine and a half feet; and the chancel is in length twenty-six and a half, and in breadth sixteen and a-half feet.

Several slabs in the chancel and other parts of the church bear brasses with figures, but without inscriptions, except the following, which is in black letter characters:

Inscriptions.

"Pray for the souls of Richard Westley and Jane his wife: which Richard deceased the 23rd day of January, the year of our Lord 1518, on whose souls Jesus have mercy. Amen."

In the apartment over the vault there are several very handsome monuments to the memory of the family whose remains are deposited beneath; the first and oldest is of black and white marble, forming a niche, in which is placed a well-carved bust of the celebrated Dr. William Harvey, who discovered the circulation of the blood. On a square pannel is the following:—

"Gulielmus Harveius, cui tam colendo nomini assurgunt omnes academias, qui diurnum sanguinis motum, post tot annorum millia, primus invenit, orbi salutem, sibi immortalitatem consequutus; qui ortum et generationem animalium solus omnium a pseudophilosophia liberavit; cui debet qui sibi innotuit humanum genus seipsam medicina. Sereniss. majestat. Jacobo et Carolo Britanniarum monarchis archiater et charissimus; Colleg. Med. Lond. anatomes et chirurgias profess. assiduus et felicissimus, quibus illustrem construxit bibliothecam suamq. dotavit et ditavit patrimonio. Tandem post triumphales contemplando, sanando, inveniendo sudores, varias domi forisq. statuas, quum totum circuit microcosmum, medicinas doctor et medicorum, improles obdormivit 8 Junii, anno salutis 1657, etatis 80, annorum et famae satur. Resurgemus."

"William Harvey, (a name so venerated that to it every seminary of learning does homage,) who, by being the first, after the lapse of so many thousands of years, to discover the circulation of the blood, insured health to the world, and immortality for himself; who rescued, unaided by any, the origin and generation of animals from a spurious philosophy; to whom mankind is indebted for Medicine having made a revelation of herself to them; the chief and most respected physician to their most serene majesties James and Charles, monarchs of Britain; and the indefatigable and successful professor of anatomy and surgery in the College of Physicians at London; (for whom he founded, endowed and enriched, out of his own patrimonial property, a noble library;) after labouring triumphantly in his studies, his practice, and his discoveries,—after various statues had been erected to him at home and abroad;—after having made himself acquainted with every thing connected with medicine and medical professors,—fell asleep, without offspring, on the 3d of June, in the year of salvation 1657, in the 80th year of his age, and full of honours. We shall rise again."

A marble mural monument bears inscriptions to the memory of the following:—Eliab Harvey, of London, merchant, who departed this life the 27th of May, An. Dom. 1661, aged 72 years. Sarah Harvey, daughter of the said Eliab Harvey, who died on the 17th of May, 1665, aged 13 years. Also Elizabeth, another daughter of the said Eliab Harvey, who departed this life the 15th day of July, 1666, aged 9 years. Also, the body of Mrs. Mary Harvey, who died 30th of December, 1673, aged 67 years, she being the only wife of the abovesaid Eliab Harvey. Also, sir Eliab Harvey, knt. eldest son of the abovesaid Eliab Harvey, died Feb. 20th, 1698, aged

BOOK II.

64 years. Also, dame Mary Whitmore, relict of sir William Whitmore, bart. of Astley, in Shropshire, eldest daughter of the same Eliab Harvey, died Jan. 30, 1710, aged 71 years. Also, Eliab Harvey, esq. eldest son of sir Eliab Harvey, knt. died June 3, 1686, aged 28 years. Beneath also lie William and Dorothy Harvey; he was second son, (and by the death of his brother Eliab) became eldest son and heir of sir Eliab Harvey, knt. and died October 31, 1731, aged 68: she was only daughter and heiress of sir Robert Dicer, bart. of the counties of Suffolk and Hertford, and died June 28, 1711, aged 48. They married Sept. 2, 1681, and had issue two sons, William and Eliab, who also lie beneath, and three daughters: Dorothy, married to sir Philip Monoux, bart. of Wooton, in the county of Bedford. Mary, to sir Edward Anderson, bart. of Kilwich, in the county of York: and Agnes, to Pulter Foraster, of Broadfield, in the county of Hertford, esq.

A beautiful marble monument, under a funeral vase, bears the following:—

“Here lieth interred the body of William Harvey, of Roehampton, in the county of Surrey, esq.; he departed this life, the 18th of August, 1719, aged 80; and also Bridget, his only wife, daughter of sir Richard Browne, of this county, bart. She departed this life the 13th day of Nov. 1761, aged 58.”

Two medallions of white marble, with portraits of the persons commemorated, finely wrought by Roubiliac, are suspended on a pyramid of grey marble, which bears the following inscription:—

“In the vault beneath lieth the body of William Harvey, of Winchlow Hall, and of Chigwell, in this county, esq. who died Dec. 24, 1742, in the 50th year of his age. He married the daughter and heiress of Ralph Williamson, of Berwick, in the county of Northumberland, esq. who, in the year 1758, erected this monument to the memory of her deceased husband. They had issue three sons, William, Eliab, and Edward now living, and two daughters, Mary and Philadelphia, who died infants, and lie by their father. Beneath also lieth the body of Mary Harvey, widow of the same William Harvey, who surviving her husband, died in the 76th year of her age.”

A plain black marble tablet on the wall bears the following:—

“Sacred to the memory of captain Edward Harvey, of the Coldstream Guards, eldest son of admiral Harvey, who fell honourably in the lines of Burgos, October 18th, 1812, aged 22 years, lamented by his friends, and respected by all who knew him.”

Many other members of the same family have been interred in this vault, the last of which was sir Eliab Harvey, admiral of the blue, knight grand cross of the bath, and member of parliament for the county of Essex, who died Feb. 20, 1830, aged 71.

The considerable number of leaden coffins, of the shape of the human body, and which seem never to have been inclosed in wood, give a singular appearance to this vault.

John Pound, of Hemsted, gave a messuage and six acres of meadow or pasture lying here, for the relief of the poor and maintenance of the church: there is also another messuage and some parcels of land, amounting in the whole to about six acres. The donor unknown.

CHAP.
VI.
Charities.

The celebrated Dr. William Harvey, the son of Thomas Harvey, of Folkstone, in Kent, was the eldest of seven sons; he was born in 1578, took his degree of M.D. at Cambridge, was afterwards admitted into the college of physicians in London, to which he was appointed lecturer of anatomy and surgery. In these lectures he opened his discovery relative to the circulation of the blood, which, after a variety of experiments, he communicated to the world in his "*Exercitatio anatomica de motu cordis et sanguinis.*" He was physician to king James the first and to king Charles the first, and adhered to the royal cause in the civil wars. His discovery has eternized his memory: in 1651, he published his "*Exercitationes de generatione animalium,*" a very curious work. His papers were destroyed during the contentions between Charles the first and the parliament. In 1654, he was chosen president of the college of physicians in his absence; but as he could not discharge the duty of that office, he desired them to choose Dr. Pringle. As he had no children, he settled his paternal estate upon the college: in 1653, he built a library and a museum, and, in 1656, brought the deeds of his estate and presented them to the college, and was then present at the first feast, instituted by himself, with a commemoration speech in Latin, to be spoken on the eighteenth of October annually, in honour of the benefactors of the college; and he appointed a handsome stipend for the orator, and also for the keeper of the library and museum, which are called by his name; he died in 1657: this great physician had the happiness in his life-time to find the clamours of ignorance, envy, and prejudice against his doctrine totally silenced, and to see it universally established. A knowledge of the circulation of the blood is of the greatest importance in medicine, as it is perhaps impossible to define health and sickness in fewer words than that the one is a free, and the other an obstructed circulation. Dr. Harvey was not only an excellent physician, but of an admirable character as a man and a Christian philosopher: his modesty, candour, and piety, were equal to his knowledge; the farther he penetrated into the wonders of nature, the more he venerated its author.

Dr. W.
Harvey.

Hemsted, in 1821, contained six hundred and fifty-five, and, in 1831, seven hundred and eight inhabitants.*

BUMSTED HELION.

From the extremity of Hinckford hundred this parish extends northward to the borders of Cambridgeshire and Suffolk; in length it is about three miles, and nearly

Bumsted
Helion.

* The editor gratefully acknowledges his obligations to the rev. W. Myall, of Great Samford, for valuable information relative to this and some neighbouring parishes. •

BOOK II. the same in breadth;* distant from Saffron Walden nine, from Braintree fourteen, and from London fifty-five miles.

Lewin Cilt, and Ulwin, were the names of the possessors of the lands of this parish in the time of Edward the confessor, which, at the survey, belonged to Tihel de Brito and Alberic de Vere: it was divided into five manors.

Helions.

The mansion-house of Helions is half a mile south-west from the church. This manor is what was originally holden by Tihel Brito; his surname, derived from his being one of the Britons or Armoricans who served in the rear of the Conqueror's army under Alan the red, which is Ti-Hellus in the record, is believed to have originated the family name, and also that of the parish, and of the manor. Robert de Helion had large possessions in the time of king Henry the second,† and was succeeded by his supposed son, William de Helion, who lived in the reigns of Richard the first, king John, and king Henry the third: his widow had possessions here, and Andrew, son of William and Amicia, died in 1289, holding estates here and in Haverhill: Henry de Helion was their son, who held this estate in 1304, of which a third part was in the possession of Alice, his widow, in 1314; their son Henry died in 1314, and his son John, and Agnes his wife, held this and other estates in Suffolk of the king, as of the honour of Helion: he died in 1349, and his son Henry died in 1391, in possession of this manor, and also of Nortofts, in Finchingfield; and his son and heir, John Helion, marrying Alice, daughter of sir Robert Swinborne, by his lady Joan, daughter and heiress of John Boutetort, esq. exceedingly enlarged the family possessions; John Helion, esq. his son, was the last male heir of this ancient family, who, dying in 1449, by his wife Editha, only daughter and heiress of Thomas Rolf, esq. of Gosfield, left two daughters, Philippa and Isabel:‡ their mother Editha held a third part of this estate at the time of her decease, in 1498. Philippa, the eldest daughter, married to sir Thomas Montgomery, of Falkborne, and died without issue, leaving her sister Isabel her heiress, who conveyed the extensive possessions of the family to her husband, Humphrey Tyrell, esq. of Little Warley, third son of sir John Tyrell, of Herons: their only daughter was Anne, married to sir Roger Wentworth, of Codham Hall, in Wethersfield, who made acknowledgement in the courts in Westminster Hall, in 1501, that he held, in right of Anne his wife, the third part of this manor of the king; yet this estate is not mentioned in the inquisition taken after her decease in 1534, and it is not known how it came to the crown; but, in 1553, it was

* This parish, and also Bumsted Steeple, contain a larger proportion of meadow and pasture than of arable land, and are reckoned among the best grass lands in the county.

† Maud, the empress, when she made Alberic de Vere earl of Oxford, granted to him and his heirs the service of William de Helion, namely, ten knight's fees.—*Dugdale's Baron.* vol. i. p. 190. But unquestionably they were restored to the Helion family.

‡ Arms of Helion: Gules, a fesse argent; over all a fesse, qr.

granted, by king Edward the sixth, under the name of Denge Hullyons, with Alvithley, Gerons, and the New House, Tailfeers, and Stewards, in Great Parndon, to the mayor, commonalty and citizens of London, and has been appropriated to the use of St. Thomas's Hospital, in Southwark.

The manor of Bumsted Hall is the largest in the parish, extending into Bumsted Steeple; it also formerly had a park, and, at the time of the survey, belonged to Alberic de Vere, ancestor of the earls of Oxford, in whose family it continued from the Conquest to the time of queen Elizabeth,* when, in 1571, this manor was sold to William Stubbing, esq. who died in 1603, and was succeeded by his son Richard, whose successor was his brother Edmund, who, on his decease in 1630, left William, his eldest son, his heir: he had also Thomas, Henry, and John. William Stubbing, esq. married Mary Collin, and, dying in 1638, left by her his son Edward, his heir. Proprietors of the estate, belonging to this family, have been Thomas, a second Thomas, on whose decease in 1744, he was succeeded by his son, Thomas Stubbing, esq. from whose family it passed to Richard Salway, esq. succeeded by William Salway, esq. The mansion-house is about a mile from the church eastward.

Bumsted
Hall.

The ancient manor-house of Bublowes is on rising ground, about half a mile from the manor of Helions, towards Hemsted: Simon de Bublowe, of an ancient family who were a long time owners of this manor, gave it to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, in the possession of which house it continued till the dissolution; and, in 1543, was granted, by king Henry the eighth, to William Burnel, who, the same year, sold it to John Golding, on whose decease, in 1548, it descended to his son, Thomas Golding, who, in 1564, sold it to Francis Burnham, who conveyed it to sir William Cordel, from whom it passed to William Stubbing, esq. whose grandson, Thomas Stubbing, sold it, in 1701, to Thomas Took, D.D. who, in 1713, conveyed it to Robert Denet, esq.: it afterwards became the property of Richard Salway, esq.

Bublowes.

The manor of Olmsted Hall is on the northern extremity of the parish, near Castle-camps and Ashdon; formerly it was considered a hamlet in Castle-camps, though styled the village of Olmsted, in Bumsted. It originally formed part of the lordship of Bumsted Hall, and was holden under the earls of Oxford by the Olmsted family, from whom it was conveyed to William and John Screen, and to Queen's College, Cambridge, to whom it at present belongs.

Olmsted
Hall.

Hersham Hall is also in the most northern part of the parish, extending into Castle-camps and Haverhill. The Vere family were the original proprietors of this estate from the time of the Conquest, under whom it was holden by Aldelelm at the survey, being at that time reckoned in the hundred of Hinckford. In the reign of Henry the third, Peter de Tye held Hersham Hall under the family of Vere; and it afterwards

Hersham
Hall.

* In records of 1331, besides Bumsted Hall, it is named Earl's Bumsted; and, in 1371, the distinction between Bumsted Helion and Bumsted Steeple first occurs, as does the name of Countess' Meadow, in 1416.

BOOK II.

passed into the possession of the Lacy family, in the time of Edward the third: it belonged to Peter Bateman in the time of king Henry the seventh, and in the record a succession of noble proprietors are named, among whom are Hugh de Audley, earl of Gloucester, Ralph, Hugh, Thomas, William, and Edmund, earls of Stafford, and Humphrey, duke of Buckingham. This possession, together with the manor of Mole Hall, vulgarly More Hall, and formerly named Scoteneys, now belongs to Trinity College, Cambridge. The court is kept in Haverhill.*

Church.

The church is a good stone building, with a nave and south aisle, leaded; and a small chancel tiled, with a modern brick tower, containing five bells; it is dedicated to St. Andrew, and pleasantly situated on high ground: this church belonged originally to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, and was let by them, in perpetual farm, to the prior and convent of Hatfield Regis, at the annual rent of thirty-four marks, the agreement confirmed in 1246, by Fulke Basset, bishop of London.† In 1538, king Henry the eighth granted the rectory and advowson of the vicarage to Richard Mabott, clerk, master of the hospital of St. Thomas the martyr, in Southwark, who presented one vicar; the lands being again surrendered to the same king, who granted them to William Burnel, and he, in 1552, conveyed them to John Stubbing and others. Afterwards they passed successively to Thomas Lond, or Lownd, in 1571, to William Lond; William Lamb, who died in 1608, in possession of the rectory and advowson of the vicarage, with the glebe lands of the rectory, containing forty-one acres: at the time of his decease, Mabel Hawkins, his cousin, was his heir. Devereux Tallakarne‡ held the rectory, and the fourth part of the fifth part of the manor of Rands: on his decease in 1628, he left John his son and heir, who afterwards married Frances, daughter of Henry Gent, esq. The Cowle or Cole family presented to the vicarage from 1635 to 1694. It afterwards passed to Trinity College, Cambridge.

Guild of
St. Peter.

There was formerly a guild here, dedicated to St. Peter; a messuage belonged to it which was named Le Yeld Hall; in 1549, it was given to John Herford and William Willison, by king Edward the sixth.

This parish, in 1821, contained seven hundred and seventy-three, and, in 1831, eight hundred and forty-seven inhabitants.

* In the record of Domesday, Battle Abbey is stated to have held the manor of *Hersam*, in *Hincford* hundred.

† They farmed also the tithes of the demesne lands of Helion's estate here of the prior of Prittlewell; and, in 1336, Roger, vicar of this church, and John de Gippewic, vicar of Great Canfield, gave lands here, to the priory of Hatfield Broadoak.

‡ On the northern wall of the chancel a monumental inscription informs us that the body of Devereux Tallakarne, son of sir John Tallakarne, who was slain in the battle of Reas, in France, at the age of 60, is buried here. His mother was Lucy, eldest daughter of Thomas Cetton, esq. His wife Mary, daughter of Thomas Steward, of Barton Mills, in Suffolk, is also interred here: this and another monument belonging to the Gardiner family are illegible.

RADWINTER, (in Records, REDEWINTRE.)

From Hemsted, this parish extends westward to Wimbish, and from Great Samford to Ashdon northward: it is ten miles in circumference. A fine spring named St. Pris's well, is the source of a rivulet which passing across the greater part of the parish, and to the village, pursues its course towards Great Samford; the surrounding country is agreeably diversified by hill and dale, well-wooded, and richly cultivated.* Distant from Saffron Waldon four, and from London forty-three miles.

Radwin-
ter.

In Saxon times the holders of the lands here, were Orgar; Aluric, a sochman; and Leffin; to whose possessions, Frodo, Alberic de Vere, Tihil Brito, and Eustace de Boulogne had succeeded, at the time of the general survey:† there are four manors.

The lands held by Frodo, Alberic, and Tihel constitute the manor of Radwinter Hall, the mansion of which is about half a mile south-west from the church. Frodo was brother to Baldwin, abbot of St. Edmundsbury, in Suffolk; and progenitor of the ancient family of Tilney, in Norfolk: Gilbert, his son, was the father of Richard, and the father and son united in the conveyance of their part of this lordship, to Alberic de Vere and his heirs: the part in possession of Tihel, was that which afterwards was incorporated into the barony of Helion,‡ given by the empress Maud to Alberic de Vere. What Alberic himself held in this parish was very considerable, stated to have been half of Radwinter, and to which there belonged ample privileges.

Radwin-
ter Hall.

Robert, son of Robert, son of Ailric, one of Alberic de Vere's knights, held one fee under him in the reign of Henry the second. The heiress of Alberic de Vere was his only daughter Beatrix, married to Jordan Chamberlain, one of her father's retainers, who held under him, this manor and the advowson of the church: their two sons were John, and Martin; and they had a daughter named Arabella. The eldest son was mortgaged as a ward to Dionysia de Montchency, for the sum of two hundred pounds. His wife's name was Joan, who with her husband held lands and a tene-ment in Radwinter,§ in 1309: on his decease without issue, his brother Martin Chamberlain was his heir; who had, by his wife, also named Joan, his son and heir William; and Catherine, and Helen. William Chamberlain had Cecilia, married to Andrew de Bures; who on her decease without issue, in 1351, enjoyed this estate in her right, till his decease, when it came to the sisters of William Chamberlain; Helen, married to John Oveine, died without issue, leaving Catherine sole heiress: by her first husband William Philip, she had no issue, but left by her second husband,

* Average annual produce per acre—wheat 22, barley 30 bushels.

† The under-tenant of Alberic de Vere was Blanc, and Goderet held under Tihel Brito.

‡ Warine Fitz-Gerald held half a knight's fee of the honour of Helion.

§ In the record these possessions are said to be in part in Little Radwinter, holden of the king: the other in Great Radwinter, holden of the countess of Oxford.

BOOK II. William de Hemesi, Brian, her only son, who dying without issue, the estate passed to sir Ralph de Hemenhall, some time previous to 1386, in virtue of a deed of assignment agreed upon by the heirs of the families of Philip and Oveine. Sir Ralph gave it to Robert de Ashfield, and others.*

Cobham
family.

This manor afterwards was conveyed to the noble family of Cobham, of Kent. The last of that surname was John lord Cobham, whose only daughter Joan, married to sir John de la Pole, left by him an only daughter, also named Joan, who had five husbands: her children by John de Havenal, of Suffolk, died young; by sir Gerard Braybroke she had her daughter Joan, afterwards baroness Cobham; her children by sir Nicholas Hawberk died young; as did also those by her fourth husband, the celebrated sir John Oldcastle, of Cowling, in her right lord Cobham, who was with cruel injustice hanged and burnt under pretence of heresy: by her last husband, sir John Harpenden, this lady had no issue: and on her decease in 1433, her only daughter Joan was heiress to this, and her other estates, and in her right baroness of Cobham: previous to her mother's decease she was married to sir Thomas Brooke, a descendant of William de la Brooke, lord of the manor of Brooke, near Ilchester, in Somersetshire: he had by her his son sir Edward, distinguished by the style of sir Edward Brooke of Cobham, who died in 1464, and was succeeded by his son John, who was summoned to the parliament in 1472 by the title of lord Cobham, and held a whole knight's fee in Radwinter of the earl of Oxford. He married Margaret, daughter of Edward Nevill, lord Bergavenny, by whom, on his decease in 1506, he left Thomas, his son and heir, who was thrice married, having by his first lady, seven sons and six daughters, but by the other two, he had no children. On his decease, in 1529, he was succeeded by his son George, who in the record is said to be possessed not only of this manor, but also of Bendish Hall. Sir William Brooke, his son, was his successor in 1558, succeeded by his son sir Henry, lord Cobham, in 1597; and these estates continued in the family till 1603, when this unfortunate nobleman, George his brother, Thomas lord Grey of Wilton, sir Walter Raleigh, and others, were arraigned at Winchester for high treason. On this occasion, George, the younger brother, was beheaded, and the life of lord Cobham spared; but his estate was confiscated, and though his lady† had a noble jointure, yet she suffered him to live in extreme indigence and misery. He died in the utmost distress, in a mean garret, where he would have perished by hunger if he had not been relieved by his laundress. Upon the seizure of this estate it was granted, by king James, to Duke Brook, son of George Brook, esq., second son of the said George lord Cobham: it was afterwards conveyed to Alexander Prescot, alderman of London, and sheriff in 1612: his family

* In 1422, this manor was in the possession of Mariota, daughter and heiress of William Crocheman.

† This lady was Frances, daughter of Charles Howard, earl of Nottingham.—*Sir A. Weldon's Court of King James the First*, p. 37.

was succeeded by sir William Wiseman, who sold it to sir Mark Guyon, knight, of Coggeshall, whose daughter Rachel conveyed it by marriage to Edward Bullock, esq. in whose family it has continued to the present time.

CHAP.
VI.

The mansion belonging to the manor named Brockholes, also named Roos, is about a mile and a half distant southward from the church: in the beginning of the reign of Edward the second this estate was in possession of Robert de Roos, whose son and successor, sir John, married Alesia, daughter and heiress of sir Robert Asheldam: John his grandson, the son of his son John, was his heir, who died without issue only two months after the decease of his grandmother; and was succeeded by his aunt Elene, daughter of sir John de Roos, by his lady Alesia. This heiress was married to sir Geoffrey de Brockhole,* of an ancient Kentish family: Margery, their second daughter, and ultimately sole heiress, conveyed the family possessions to John, her son, by her husband, John Sumpter, of Colchester, who, on his decease in 1420, left two daughters, his co-heiresses: Christine, married to Thomas Bernard, and Ellen, married first to James Bellers, esq., and secondly to Ralph Holt, of Grislehurst, in Lancashire; and who, on the decease of her sister, without issue, became sole heiress. By her first husband she had no children, but by Ralph Holt she had James and Alan. The latter held this manor in 1485, after which it passed to the Wiseman family, of Felsted, to that of Marshall, of Wethersfield, and to Thomas Wolfe, esq. deputy recorder of the corporation of Saffron Waldon.

Great
Brock-
holes.

The mansion of Bendish Hall is a quarter of a mile northward from the church: in the reign of Edward the confessor the lands of this manor were included in what belonged to Ledmar a priest, and afterwards to Ingelric, a noble Saxon, related to that king: at the time of the survey it belonged to Eustace, earl of Boulogne; at present this manor forms a hamlet, partly in this parish, and partly in that of Ashdon, and is said to have formerly been a parish called Bendishes, of which the church has been destroyed. William earl of Boulogne, youngest son of king Stephen, gave this estate to the abbey of Feversham, in Kent, founded by his father in 1147, of which they retained possession till the dissolution of monasteries. In 1538, it was granted to sir Richard Riche, who, in 1546, sold it to George Brooke, lord Cobham, who being condemned for alleged treason, forfeited this and his other estates to the crown, from which it passed, through several families, to that of lord Maynard.

Bendish
Hall.

In the time of Edward the second and Edward the third, the family of Westley, also named Bendish, had a considerable estate here, from which they are said to have derived their surname. We are informed by the rev. William Harrison, rector of this parish from 1558 to 1593, that Edmund Bendish, esq., attending king Edward the third to the siege of Calais, mortgaged his estate of Bendish Hall in Radwinter,

* He was of Great Samford, knight of the shire for Hertfordshire in the time of Edward the third, and in 1385 sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire.

BOOK II. to the monks of Feversham; and the siege proving of longer duration than expected, he came over to confer with his creditors, before the lapse of the mortgage; on which occasion he was assured that he need suspect no unfair treatment from them, especially as he was in the king's service, which would always be considered as a sufficient excuse for his delay of payment beyond the day assigned; on which he returned again to the siege. But when the day came, the monks secured the estate to themselves, notwithstanding their fair promises. This ungenerous treatment is said to have induced this gentleman constantly to warn his contemporaries, and to leave a written admonition to posterity, not easily to be persuaded to trust the fair promises of knave monk, or knave friar. Being deprived of their estate, the family removed to Steeple Bumsted, and made that the place of their residence.*

Radwin-
ter Grange

A reputed manor here, named the Grange, belonged to Tiltey abbey till the dissolution of monasteries, and, in 1538, was granted to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk: it is stated to have formerly belonged to the Roos family, but is not known by whom, or when it was given to Tiltey. It successively passed to Humphrey Shelton, Henry Norris, and to the families of Bird, Brown, and Sharp, and to John Bullock, esq. of Radwinter Hall, to whose family it now belongs. The parsonage house, the residence of the rev. J. Bullock, is a large and handsome modern building, covered with cement, on elevated ground, rising above the road from Samford to Saffron Waldon; and on the opposite side of the same road a capital mansion, called the New House, belongs to the Carter family.

Church.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is an ancient building, chiefly of stone, in good repair; above its massive square embattled tower, a pointed spire rises to a considerable height, and is covered with lead: it has a nave and north and south aisles, and chancel, the whole leaded. There are five bells. In the east window of the north aisle are the arms of Bendish; and an arch in the wall, with vestiges of arms and ornamental sculptures, is believed to have belonged to the same family.†

In the church-yard, near the large antique wooden south porch, a plain tombstone bears the following inscription:—

Inscrip-
tion.

“ Sacred to the memory of John Carter, who died December 19, 1830, aged 55.

“ How frail is mortal life! a transient day
Gives it at once to blossom and decay;
Manhood is like the rose, when wide display'd,
As fast his strength decays, his beauties fade.

In vain the spring returns, the spring no more
Can wasting man to former prime restore:
Seek then eternal life; thine hours improve,
And taste a Saviour's everlasting love.”

Rev. W.
Harrison.

The rev. William Harrison, a native of London, was inducted to this rectory in

* This statement appears in Holinshed's Chronicles, yet the truth of it has been disputed.

† A plain stone in the church is inscribed to the memory of Elizabeth, wife of Richard Baines, who died in 1684, and in the church-yard there are several inscriptions to the memory of individuals of the family of Wale.

1558, and to the vicarage of Wimbish in 1570, which last he resigned in 1581: he died in 1593. This gentleman wrote an historical description of the island of Britain, published in Holingshed's Chronicles; also the description of Scotland, translated by him from Hector Boethius, is prefixed to Holingshed's History of Scotland.*

In 1821, there were seven hundred and seventy-three, and in 1831 eight hundred and nineteen inhabitants in this parish.

ASHDON.

This parish extends northward from Radwinter to the border of Cambridgeshire, and to Hadstock north-westward; in length it is about three, and in width two miles. A fine spring of water rises near Wismore hill, which, flowing toward Bartlow End, joins the stream that separates that hamlet from Cambridgeshire. The heavy clay lands join the chalk district at this place.† The name is supposed to have been derived from the Anglo-Saxon, Ash and Dun; Ash-hill must, in that case, have been written *Ærceþ-dun*, as is observed by the learned bishop Gibson;‡ but in the Saxon Chronicle it is *Aryr-dun*, which Marianus Scotus, Florence of Worcester, and Roger de Hovenden, translate *Collis Asinorum*, and *Mons Asini*, deriving it from *Aryr* and *dun*. In old records it is written *Ashden*, *Ashdon*, *Ascenduna*, *Assandun*, *Asheton*, *Aston*, *Essedune*, and *Hasheton*. The village is distant from Saffron Walden three, and from London forty-five miles. Ashdon.

Ailid, Alsy, and Ingelric; Oslac, a freeman; Alwin and Orderic; and Edeva, held the lands of this parish in the time of Edward the confessor; and, at the survey, they belonged to Ralph Baignard; Eustace, earl of Boulogne; Alberic de Vere and his under-tenant Renold; Tihel Brito, and Hervey de Ispania. There are three manors.

The mansion-house of Ashdon Hall is near the eastern end of the church. Ralph Baynard was lord of this manor, and Geoffrey was his son and successor; whose son William, for alleged treason against king Henry the first, was deprived of this and his other estates, which, in 1111, were given by that king to Robert, a younger son of Richard Fitz-Gislebert, from whom the noble family of Fitz-Walter descended, who held this lordship for many generations: John lord Fitz-Walter in 1361, Walter Fitz-Walter in 1375, and Walter his son, were succeeded by sir Walter Fitz-Walter, who died in 1406: his successor, Walter lord Fitz-Walter, left two daughters, Ashdon Hall.

* In the south window of the ancient parsonage-house of Radwinter, there was painted, "the sun in his glory," within which was a hare, couchant, argent; and encircling the hare, this inscription: "In sole posuit tabernaculum suum—In the sun hath he set his tabernacle;" according to the taste of the age of Elizabeth, intended to form the rebus, "Hare in Sun" for Harrison.

† There is a tolerable mixture of a lighter soil on gravel, in this parish.

‡ *Nominum locorum explicatio, ad calcem Chronic. Saxonici*, p. 13.

BOOK II. co-heiresses, of whom Anne, by marriage, conveyed this possession to Thomas Ratcliffe, esq. succeeded by sir John, whose son and successor of the same name was summoned to parliament in 1485, and, in 1494, espousing the cause of Perkin Warbeck, was condemned for treason and beheaded; but, in 1505, Robert, his son, was restored to his honours, and advanced to the title of viscount Fitz-Walter in 1525, and also the same year created earl of Sussex. He died in 1542, succeeded by his son Henry in 1556, followed by Thomas, his son, whose successor was his brother Henry, in 1583, who, on his decease in 1593, left Robert Ratcliffe, earl of Sussex, his son, the last male heir of this noble family; and he, in 1619, conveyed this estate to William Bramston, esq. succeeded by his eldest son of the same name in 1649, whose heir was his son John, from whom the estate was conveyed to William Richardson, in trust for Robert Prujean. Afterwards it became the property of Thomas Richers, esq. of Fring, in Norfolk, whose son of the same name sold it to Thomas Selater Bacon, esq. who, on his decease in 1736, left it to Robert King, esq. whose heir was Thomas Selater King: the estate afterwards became the property of the right hon. lord Maynard.

Newnham The manor named Newnham, originally belonging to Alsy and Ingelric, and afterwards to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, has the mansion-house about half a mile from the church: it formed part of the four knights' fees held of the honour of Boulogne by Bernard de Bailiol, and was what Gilbert de Lacy held in 1210, named Nivenham, near Walden, in Essex: he was probably of the noble family of the Lacies, earls of Lincoln. Sir Robert de Lacy died in 1347, holding this manor of John de Lacy, of Wiltshire, by the service of half a knight's fee: John, his son, in 1347, sold it to sir William de Clopton, of Liston, who came and resided here; the estate continued in the possession of his family till Anne, the daughter and heiress of sir William Clopton, of Kentwell Hall, in Suffolk, conveyed it to Symonds D'Ewes, knt. and bart. of the ancient family of Des Ewes, syndics of Kissel in Gelderland; the lady Anne was living in 1630, and was survived by two of her children by sir Symonds, of whom Sibil, the younger, was married to sir Thomas Darcy, bart. who had with her this estate, and Kentwell Hall.

**Mortis-
faux.**

A small reputed manor, named Mortisfaux, Mortishaus, Mortivaux, or Mortimers, was formerly holden of Newnham Hall, as part of its demesnes: in 1381, it was sold, by sir John Seyton, to Edmund Bendish, esq. and was in the possession of Thomas Bendish, esq. at the time of his decease in 1448, and, in 1545, was sold, by William Bendish, to Stephen Cobb, haberdasher, of London. It afterwards passed with Newnham to the noble family of Maynard.

Waltons.

Waltons is a large brick building, in a park, on the northern extremity of the county, rather more than a mile eastward from the church; it was originally erected by sir William Maynard, esq. and has descended with the other family estates, being

at present occupied as the seat of — Wright, esq. It is not far distant from the village called Ashdon Street, near Ashdon Place, now a farm-house.

• This portion of the parish is what belonged in Saxon times to Oslac, Alwin, and Orderic; and to Tihel Brito and Alberic de Vere, at the survey, being at that time named Stenitune, and Stauintun, and, at the present time, is known by the appellation of Stevington-End, or Stenton-End; there appears some ground for the belief that anciently it formed a distinct village, or parish: the inhabitants support their own poor, keep their accounts distinct from the rest of Ashdon, and though they apply on all necessary occasions to the justices of Essex, and to the quarter sessions at Chelmsford, yet usually resort to Bartlow church, to which they pay churchwarden's rates, and are generally reckoned to be in the spiritual jurisdiction of that parish: the place is also named Bartlow End. The posterity of Tihel, surnamed Helion, held this estate in the time of Henry the second; it was afterwards in possession of the Wangeford family,* and, in 1259, John de Wangeford and his wife Margaret, conveyed it to sir Richard de Wanton, Wawton, or Walton, but it is not known how long it continued in the possession of this family, from which it took its name.†

That part of this estate which belonged to the Vere family was holden by Henry Gerret, at the time of his decease in 1344, and afterwards passed successively to the families of Chamberleyn, Kedington, Sandon, Crochman, Lekaude, Cordy, Arneburgh, Hotoft, Nowers, and to a branch of the ancient family of Tyrell. Sir Thomas Tyrell, esq. of Herongate, living in 1458, married Emma, daughter of sir John Marney, of Laver Marney: his third son by her was Humphrey Tyrell, esq. of Little Warley, who married Elizabeth, daughter of John Walwyn, of Lounsford, esq. in Hertfordshire, by whom he had six sons; of these, Robert, the youngest, by his wife Dalston, had five sons, of whom Richard Tyrell, esq. resided at Ashdon Place, and died in 1566, possessed of the manor of Waltons, lying in "Asheton and Barklowe;" by his wife Grace, he had his successor, Edward Tyrell, esq. warden of the Fleet, who married Elizabeth, daughter of sir Valentine Brown, by whom he had Robert, Henry, and Elizabeth. Sir Robert Tyrell, the eldest son, knighted in 1607, was his father's successor as warden of the Fleet, and married Susannah, daughter of Robert Millicent, esq. by Dorothy, daughter of John Maynard, esq. of St. Albans, the ancestor of lord Maynard. Sir Robert Tyrell removed to Bartlow, and sold this estate to William lord Maynard.

Thickhoe is a reputed manor, anciently holden of the earls of Oxford as part of the barony of Helion. In the time of king Henry the third, William de Thickhoe left John, his son and heir, and the name of Geoffrey de Thickhoe appears in 1262, and

Thickhoe.

* The Wangeford family remained some time settled at Toppesfield.

† Their estate is called a carucate, in Essenden, Radwinter, Barklow, Newenham, Bendish, and Stiveton, in Essex, and Brend, in Cambridgeshire. The family of Walton rose in importance, as, in 1304, William de Wanton, Wawton, or Walton, was representative in Parliament for this county. Arms of Wanton: Argent, a chevron, sable.

BOOK II. John de Laundress and Maud, his daughter and heiress, also appear as early as 1334, and as late as 1351. Richard Floud, servant of the crown,* in 1445 held here, among other lands in Ashdon, Londres, called also Black Garden; and, in 1747, this manor belonged to Audrey Buck, widow, at that time ninety years of age; she died in 1750. A parcel of land held by Edeva, and afterwards by Hervey de Hispania, was formerly named Roda, and Rede, and Rothe End.

Church. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is agreeably situated on ground rising above the village, and commanding an extensive and pleasing prospect: it is a large ancient building of stone, having a nave, and north and south aisles, leaded, and a chancel tiled: on the south side of the church there is a square building, which, by the parishioners, is called the old chancel. A small square tower, with a spire leaded, contains five bells, and a fine-toned organ has been recently presented by the rev. B. Chapman, the present rector.

This rectory was appropriated to the priory of Lewes, in Sussex, to which it was given by Geoffrey and Ralph Baynard; and having come to the crown, was, in 1537, granted, by king Henry the eighth, to Thomas lord Cromwell, on whose fall, coming again to the crown, it was, in 1552, given, by king Edward the sixth, to Richard Tyrell, of Waltons, and has since been purchased by Caius College, Cambridge. This rectory is a manor, with several copyholds.

The parsonage-house, about a quarter of a mile north from the church, is a convenient and handsome mansion, on rising ground, with agreeable and extensive prospects.

Chantry. John Chalne left lands for the endowment of a brotherhood of priests, or a chantry.

Charity. Some land and a house called Guild Hall having been left for charitable purposes, the parishioners have appropriated the former to the apprenticing the children of poor people, while the latter is used as a workhouse.

Bartlow Hills. At Bartlow End, on ground separated from Bartlow church-yard, in Cambridge-shire, by a rivulet, there are several artificial mounds of earth, which are called Bartlow hills. They stand on a gentle acclivity, the country gradually rising round them like an extended amphitheatre. They consist of a line of four greater barrows, and of three smaller ones in front, at a distance of about seventy or eighty feet from the others. The diameter of the largest barrow is one hundred and forty-seven feet, and that of the three other principal barrows is about one hundred feet. The altitude of the largest is ninety-three feet, that of the one on each side of it sixty-nine feet, and the other principal hill, which has been lowered, is about forty-five feet high. The diameter of the smaller barrows is ninety-five feet, and as they are not more than from eight to ten feet high, the plough has passed over them. The earth of these was thrown up from the side of the brook which runs down the hollow between the hills and the church. The others were raised chiefly from the pit in front.

These works of our forefathers are remarkable, as affording an instance of the errors

* Valectus Corone Domini Regis.

into which we may be led by trusting in tradition alone. Their antiquity is proved to be great by the fact of their giving name to the place, low (hlæp) in Saxon signifying a barrow.* Camden speaks of Bartlow, or, as he calls it, Barklow, in the following words: "On the edge of the county next to Cambridgeshire is Barklow, remarkable for four artificial hills, such as were anciently thrown up for soldiers slain in battle, whose remains, as some think, could not be found. But, upon digging down a fifth and sixth, some time since, I am informed they found three stone coffins, with broken human bones in them. The country people say they were cast up after a battle with the Danes, for the dwarf elder, which grows plentifully hereabouts, with blood-coloured berries, goes by the name of Danes-blood, in memory of the numbers of that nation slain here." Holinshed describes this as the scene of the sanguinary battle of Æscendun, or Assandun, where, in 1016, Canute finally triumphed over Edmund Ironside, and he says that the Bartlow Hills were raised over the bodies of those killed in that battle.† This battle of Assandun was fought, according to some authorities, in the kingdom of Essex, or, according to others, on the confines of Mercia. Camden and Gough place the scene at Assingdon, in the hundred of Rochford, in Essex; Blore fixes it at Essendune, in Rutlandshire; and Morant agrees with Holinshed in placing it at Bartlow, in the parish of Ashdon.‡

Battle of
Assandun

On the 2d of January, 1832, the three smaller barrows were opened, and a full account of the discoveries which were made in opening them is published in the *Archæologia*.§ The remains that were found were all purely Roman. In the central

Opening
of the
smaller
Barrows.

* See a disquisition on the lows in the peak of Derbyshire, *Archæolog.* vol. vii. p. 131.

† "In this place," Holinshed says, "where the field was fought, are yet seen seven or eight hills, wherein the carcasses of them that were slain at the same hills were buried, and one being digged down of late, there were found two bodies, in a coffin of stone, of which the one lay with his head towards the other's feet, and manie chaines of iron (like to the water chains of the bits of horses) were found in the same hills." The hills are on lord Maynard's estate.

‡ Malmesbury, speaking of Canute, says:—"Loca omnia in quibus pugnaverant et precipuè Achedunc ecclesiis insignivit; ministros instituit, qui per succidua seculorum volumina Deo supplicarent pro animabus ibi occisorum. Ad consecrationem illius Basilicæ et ipse affuit, et optimates Anglorum et Danorum donaria porrescerunt. Nunc, ut fertur, modica est ecclesia presbytero parochiano delegata." With reference to this passage Morant remarked, that Canute's church "could not be the present church of Ashdon, because it stands too far from the field of battle: therefore it is with great reason supposed that it is Bartlow church, which stands near the hills, and hath a round steeple, being the Danish way of building." From Robert of Gloucester, however, we are led to suppose that he built several churches in the neighbourhood of the field of battle, as he says—

"An vp Assedone & þer aboute mest chýrchen he let rere,
As vor her soulen, þat ys lawe were þere.
Vor he & þe kýng Edmond mest armes þere bere,
An mest man slazt þoru hem & bataýles þer were."

§ It was written by John Gage, esq., and is entitled, "An Account of Roman Sepulchral Antiquities discovered at the Bartlow Hills, in the parish of Ashdon, Essex, on opening the lesser barrows." From it the present account is chiefly taken.

BOOK II.
Roman
antiqui-
ties.

barrow, and in one of the others, there appeared to have lain in the bed of the chalk, at the depth of about a foot and a half, a wooden chest, which was in both entirely pulverised. In the central barrow, the spike nails, that had fastened the chest on all sides, some of which were four inches and a half long, were seen lying in a square as they had fallen, and at the angles were the iron straps, with portions of wood adhering to them. Considerable quantities of pulverised wood were found lying about. A number of glass and earthen vessels, of different forms and texture, were found in both these barrows; the earthen vessels were generally marked with the potter's mark, among which marks four only could be distinctly traced; on the first of which were the letters VTAIISMSE, the T being in the form of a cross, and the fourth letter (marked here by II) being not very distinct; on a second was visible the letters AGOMARVS; on a third OFICVIRILI, and on a fourth OFCELI. In the first of these barrows, a small deposit of burnt human bones was lying on the chalk, surrounded by the vessels just mentioned. In each of them was found an iron lamp, and in the central one there was also a little bronze lamp, and one or two bits of iron, with wood adhering to them, as if belonging to some small wooden coffer.

In the other barrow, which was the second opened, there was discovered a remarkable brick sepulchre, in the shape of an altar, six feet three inches long, two feet three inches and a half wide throughout, and one foot eleven inches and three quarters high. It stood north and south on the bed of chalk, about a foot below the natural surface, and between seven and eight feet below the artificial soil. The basement consisted of a single course of bricks, raised in a floor of cement, full two inches thick. Each of the walls had seven courses of brick, regularly laid, excepting that the top course of the side walls was set two inches within the rest, by which means the mouth was contracted to eight inches, and the interior was thus better secured from wet. The lid was composed of two courses of brick, of different sizes, the under-joints being lapped; and the whole was covered with a thick coat of cement. The largest of the top bricks measured one foot five inches, by eleven inches and a half, and was five inches in thickness. Within the sepulchre were found a number of glass and other vessels, several of them containing liquids and other matter, which were afterwards analysed by Dr. Faraday. A large cylindrical glass urn, open at the mouth, was nearly two thirds full of a clear pale yellow liquor, covering a deposit of burnt human bones. On the top of the bones lay a gold ring, which, when taken out, was found to be a signet ring, having a cornelian intaglio, with the design of two ears of bearded coin. Afterwards, when the contents of this vase was examined by Dr. Faraday, a coin was discovered, much corroded, and adhering with rust to one of the bones at the top. It was of that kind denominated second brass, with the head of the emperor Hadrian on the obverse, and on the reverse a figure seated, holding something nearly defaced in the right hand, and a cornucopia in the left, "Probably," says Mr. Gage, "a Fortuna

Redux.”* At the southern end was found the decomposed wood of a small coffer, and the lock and iron straps that had belonged to it.†

CHAP.
VI.

From the discovery of the Roman origin of these barrows, we may presume that they are connected with the camp or station which appears to have existed in their immediate vicinity. Vestiges of an earthwork may be observed in a little meadow by the brook side, within one hundred and fifty yards of the mounds to the north-west.‡ The agger is three hundred and seventeen feet long, from east to west, the eastern end being cut through by a ditch, which separates it from the Bartlow rectory garden, in which direction there is the appearance of the mound being continued. The western end is broken by the highway leading from Linton to Ashdon, which passes at the distance of rather more than eighty yards from the smaller barrows on the western side. At an angle, here, the earthwork forms a little enclosure in the form of a parallelogram, one hundred and twenty feet by sixty-three, with two entrances. In this spot is a low mound, twenty-six feet in diameter. Towards the latter end of the year 1832, in a field near Linton, in Cambridgeshire, an urn full of Roman coins was discovered by a man attending on the plough: they were all of them soon dispersed.

Earth-
works at
Bartlow.

In 1821, the parish of Ashdon, with Bartlow End hamlet, contained one thousand and fourteen, and in 1831, one thousand one hundred and three inhabitants.

HADSTOCK.

The parish of Hadstock occupies the most northern extremity of Essex, and much of it projects into Cambridgeshire; from which it is in part separated by the stream that flows from Bartlow End to Linton: southward it joins Ashdon and Waldon, and does not exceed six miles in circumference. Distant from Linton three, and from

Hadstock.

* “There are several coins of the emperor Hadrian, having on the reverse a Fortuna Redux, with a rudder in her right hand, and a cornucopia in her left. Hadrian visited Britain in the year 120, and some of his coins are inscribed Britannia.”—*Archæolog.*

† Among the vessels found in this sepulchre was one of wood, four inches and a half in height, and two inches in diameter, hooped round the middle, and also at the top and bottom, with bronze, and having a handle of the same material. The wooden ribs were in extraordinary preservation, but the bronze was much decayed.

‡ Stukeley, who carefully traced many of the Roman roads, after describing the remains of the camp at Chesterford, gives the following notice of what he considers to be the course of the Icening-street from thence towards Suffolk: “Not far off by Audlen-house, upon an eminence, is a great Roman camp; a hunting tower of brick now stands upon it. Beyond this the Icening-street goes towards Icleworth in Suffolk, parting the countys of Cambridg and Essex all the way, and almost parallel to it runs a *great ditch*, viz. from Royston to Balsham, call'd *Brentditch*, where it turns and goes to the river below Cambridg, there called *Flightditch*. I imagin these to be ancient boundarys of the Britons, and before the Roman road was made, which naturally enough would have serv'd for a distinction by the Saxons as at other places, had their limits lain hereabouts. Two mile both ways of Royston is chalky soil. About Puckeridg 'tis gravelly. On Bartlow hills there is a camp too, castle camps, and Roman antiquitys found, I am told, of

BOOK II. London forty-three miles. The name is probably from the Saxon *það*, or head, and *ꝛtoece*; but it does not appear how these terms can be applicable: the word *hæð*, or *hat*, *hot*, has been assumed as the initial syllable; and the name, where it first occurs, is written *Hatestok*; by which name, king Edward the confessor confirmed the possession of this estate to the monastery of Ely: the common name does not occur in *Domesday*, but the name of *Cadenhou* is understood to be applied to it in the reign of king Stephen, at which time it was in the hands of Nigel, bishop of Ely, and of which he had deprived the monks, but which he afterwards restored, with ample confirmation; yet the bishop retained possession of the lordship, as part of his barony, and had return of writs, pleas of unreasonable distress, gallows, tumbrel and assize of bread and beer, and free-warren: he also, in 1337, obtained the grant of a market and fair here, of which the latter is continued on the twenty-eighth of June, for horses and cattle. The demesne lands, however, appear to have belonged to the monastery of Ely till the dissolution, and were afterwards granted, by queen Elizabeth, in 1600, together with the manor of Littlebury, to Thomas Sutton, esq., founder of the Charterhouse, who appears to have had the advowson of this rectory previous to the year 1570.* By will, dated 1611, he bequeathed both these possessions to Thomas, earl of Suffolk, on condition of his paying, within a year after his decease, the sum of ten thousand pounds: in 1635, Theophilus, earl of Suffolk, was lord of this manor; and in 1691, the trustees of James, earl of Suffolk, sold it to Daniel Malthus, esq. This gentleman had been apothecary to the very learned Dr. Thomas Sydenham, and was afterwards apothecary to king William, and to queen Anne; marrying Elizabeth, daughter of John Portman, esq., he had by her his son and heir, Sydenham Malthus, esq., one of the six clerks in chancery, and a director of the South-Sea company in 1741: he married Anne, daughter of Richard Dalton, esq., by whom he had, Daniel, Anne, Katherine, and Elizabeth. The lordship at present belongs to — Malthus, esq., a nephew of T. R. Malthus, A.M., author of the *Treatise on Population*, and numerous other celebrated works.

Segons, or
Vances.

A second manor here, is named Segons, or Vances; it is believed to be the estate on account of which a fine passed between Altfred, son of Gilbert, and Martin Badekester: it was in the possession of sir Giles Allington, of Horseheath, in Cambridgeshire, at the time of his decease in 1586; Giles his son was his heir. There is no manor-house, and the former existence of a court only rests on tradition: the lands lie towards Bartlow, and are freehold, paying quit rents to Horseheath Hall.

three remarkable barrows thereabouts where bones have been dug up. At Hadstok they talk of the skin of a Danish king nail'd upon the church doors."—*Itiner. Curios.* cent. i. p. 75. Stukeley is evidently making great confusion, but there can be little doubt of his camp on Bartlow hills being the identical earthwork described by Mr. Gagg.

* See Dr. Browne Willis's *Cathedral Churches*, vol. ii. p. 341.

The church, dedicated to St. Botolph, is of stone, and of great apparent antiquity: the entrance by the north porch, is under a massive Norman arch, slightly ornamented with carvings; formerly, what was traditionally said to be a Danish human skin, was nailed against the door here, and covered with iron rib-work: the iron remains, but the skin has been taken away by degrees, and only a small piece of it has been preserved at the parsonage, which from its appearance tends strongly to confirm the traditionary account. The original windows have been few in number and very small, not unlike the loop-holes of a castle: none of the present Gothic windows are ancient, and some of them quite modern. This building is large for a village church, and has a nave and two aisles, with a transept, as in a cathedral church. The screen, originally placed under the rood loft, has been removed to the west end, and exhibits a curious specimen of carved work, in which is plainly distinguished a pretty well executed representation of a fox delivering a grave lecture to a flock of geese, who are attentively listening to his admonitions; undoubtedly, a satire against the monkish hypocrisy of the times. The chancel has been much larger than at present, and beyond it ancient foundations may be traced in the church-yard, which, as well as part of the lower courses of the walls of the aisles, have apparently belonged to a former erection. On either side of the chancel there appear to have been chapels, or chantries: a plain stone tower contains five bells.

CHAP.
VI.
Church.

There is a well near the church, called St. Botolph's well, from which a constant stream passing under the wall of the church-yard, affords an ample supply to the village. The parsonage is a good old building, near the church, at the head of a pleasant lawn; at a short distance, from a station called Bantom Upper Stile, a prospect into Cambridgeshire is presented, of wide extent, and highly interesting, including Horseheath, where the elegant mansion of lord Montfort has been pulled down. An ancient building, called the guild, was accidentally burnt down, and an alms-house has been erected where it stood, but it is without endowment.

St.
Botolph's
Well.

Alms-
house.

Some allotments of land have been made here, to be occupied by industrious labourers, which promise to be highly beneficial.*

Allot-
ments of
land.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and ninety-two, and in 1831, four hundred and twenty-four inhabitants.

* Charities belonging to this parish, are: ten shillings per annum to the poor, left by the rev. Edmund Sherebrooke, rector of Ashdon and Hadstock.

A mark per annum, given by Mrs. Buck.

Five shillings a year, out of a farm in this parish.

Twenty shillings a year out of a farm. The same sum annually, being the interest of twenty pounds, the purchase-money of a house in Linton, left to the poor here.

BOOK II.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN THE HALF HUNDRED OF FRESHWELL.

R. Rectory.

V. Vicarage.

C. Chapelry.

Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Ashdon, R.....	Colchester.	B. Chapman	1818	£28 3 4	Caius Col. Camb.
Bardfield, Great, V..	.....	James Britton, M.A.	1829	11 0 0	Sir C.M. Burrell, bart.
Bardfield Saling, C.	Middlesex.	.....	....	Not in charge	
Bardfield, Little, R.	Colchester.	T. B. Harrison	1782	11 0 0	John Harrison.
Bunsted Helion, V.	.....	Rev. — Hodson....	1809	13 0 0	Trin. Col. Camb.
Hadstock, R. ....	.....	J. A. Carn	1786	19 0 0	Bishop of Ely.
Hemsted, C. ....	.....	V. of Great Samford	1801	Not in charge	
Radwinter, R. ....	.....	J. Watson Bullock .	1806	21 12 1	John Bullock, esq.
Samford, Great, V..	.....	Morgan Lewis	1801	18 0 0	{ Sir Wm. Eustace,
Samford, Little, R..	.....	W. P. Windham ...	1822	11 0 0	{ K.C.B. <i>jure uxoris</i> .
					New Col. Oxford.

CHAPTER VII.

HUNDRED OF UTTLESFORD.

Hundred
of Uttles-
ford.

THE north-western extremity of the county of Essex is occupied by the hundred of Uttlesford, which eastward is bounded by Freshwell and part of Dunmow, and by the half hundred of Harlow southward; westward extending to Clavering and the border of Hertfordshire, and to the county of Cambridge northward: it is of an irregular form, from north to south measuring fifteen, and from east to west, where widest, nearly eleven miles; but from Plechdon Green to Broxton, it scarcely measures half a mile.

The name has undoubtedly been derived from some ford, within the parish of Walden, generally believed to have been that in which sir Edward Bohun was drowned in 1333. The name is variously written in records, Odelsford, Odelsfort, Udelesfort, Wdelsford, Huddlisford. In some writings it is distinguished by the appellations of east and west Odelsford, Takeley being in the first of these divisions; the river Cam undoubtedly forming the line of separation.

The general appearance of this part of the country is distinguished by a pleasing diversity of hill and dale; and everywhere presents woodland scenery, with an agreeable intermixture of meadow and arable lands. The hundred contains the following twenty-six parishes: Walden, Great Chesterford, Little Chesterford, Wim-



bish, Debden, Widdington, Henham, Elsenham, Takeley, Birchanger, Stansted Montfichet, Quendon, Rickling, Newport, Wickham Bonhunt, Arkesden, Great Wendon, Little Wendon, Wendon Loughts, Littlebury, Strethall, Elmdon, Haydon, Chrishall, Great Chishall, Little Chishall.

WALDEN, OR SAFFRON WALDEN,

Walden,
or Saffron
Walden.

the chief town in this division of the county, is situated about a mile to the east of the high road, leading from London to Newmarket; about forty-two miles from the metropolis, fourteen from Cambridge, and twenty-seven from Chelmsford. Its name is generally supposed to have been derived from the Saxon words *peald*, a wood, and *den*, a valley. The term *Saffron* is added to it, on account of the large quantity of that plant, which was formerly cultivated in its immediate neighbourhood, but the growth of which has been long since discontinued.

The situation of the town is very delightful and healthy, and the scenery round it, especially in the summer months, presents Nature in her gayest and richest attire. This is greatly owing to the beautiful park and grounds connected with Audley End, the seat of lord Braybrooke. The number of the principal streets in the town is seven. The inhabitants, by the census of 1831, amounted to four thousand seven hundred and sixty-two. The houses, many of which bear marks of antiquity, have, of late years,

* This plant, which, though now but little used in medicine, was formerly supposed to possess extraordinary medicinal virtues, is said to have been brought into England, and first grown in Essex and Cambridgeshire in the reign of Edward the third. The soil, which is considered the best for its growth, is a moderately dry mould, such as commonly lies upon chalk. About the beginning of April, it is carefully ploughed, the furrows being drawn much closer together, and deeper, if the soil will allow it, than is done for any kind of corn. In May, the land is well manured with about twenty or thirty loads of good rotten dung per acre, which is carefully spread and then ploughed in. About Midsummer it is ploughed the third time, and between every sixteen and a half feet is left a broad furrow, which serves both as a boundary to the several parcels, and for throwing the weeds into, as occasion may require. The plants are usually set in July. From that time till September, or sometimes later, no more labour is required. About the beginning of that month they begin to spire, when the ground is carefully pared with a sharp hough, and the weeds are raked into the furrows. The flowers appear shortly after, and are gathered, when in a proper state, early in the morning. The owners of the saffron fields get together a sufficient number of hands, who pull off the whole flowers, carrying them home in baskets. They then pick out the three yellow chives, which are in the middle of the flower, with a considerable proportion of the style or string to which they are attached: the rest of the flower is thrown away. Next morning they return to the field, without regarding whether the weather be wet or dry, and so on daily till the crop is gathered. The chives are dried between sheets of white paper, on a kiln made for the purpose, in which process they are said to lose four fifths of their original weight, and the plantation is renewed every three years. So exceedingly rich was the ground when the growth of this plant was given up, that it is said to have wanted no further manure for more than fifteen years. At present, however, its cultivation is but little regarded; and only here and there, in the garden of the horticulturist, is a root to be found, bearing any resemblance to that which was once so abundant in this neighbourhood.

BOOK II. been much improved, and various alterations, of which notice will be taken hereafter, have contributed much both to the appearance of the town itself and the comfort of its inhabitants.

Of the early history of Walden little is known, upon which dependance can be placed, prior to the time of the Norman conquest. That it was in existence is evident; but its origin and the number of its inhabitants are uncertain. Dr. Stukeley supposes it to have been the site of a Roman station; and many circumstances tend to confirm his opinion. In the reign of Edward the confessor, it appears to have been a place of some note. Ansgar was then possessed of it, and the following curious account is given of its extent. It comprehended, "for a manor nineteen hides;* eight carucates in demesne; twenty-two among the men or tenants; sixty-six villanes; seventeen bordars; wood for a thousand hogs;† fourscore acres of meadow, and one mill." At the time of the general survey, it was holden by Geoffrey de Magnaville, and was one of the forty lordships which he had in this county.

Mandeville family.

It is said that this powerful and illustrious individual accompanied William the conqueror to this kingdom, and so distinguished himself by his services, that he was rewarded with no less than an hundred and eighteen lordships. He fixed his residence at Walden, and built the castle, of which a part of the keep and other earth-works remain to this day. The name Magnaville, or Mandeville, was derived from Mandeville, a town in Normandy; and his estate at Walden became the head of the barony, and of the honour of Mandeville. The time of his death is not known, but it was after the year 1086.

He was succeeded by William his son, who, in addition to his other honours, was made constable of the Tower of London. He appears to have been little inferior to his father in bravery; and was again succeeded by Geoffrey de Mandeville, his son. He also was remarkable for his courage; was made constable of the Tower, and advanced by king Stephen to the title and dignity of earl of Essex. It was, however, at a time of great civil commotion, when the contention for the crown between Stephen and Matilda, or Maud, to whom it had been left by her father, was dividing the kingdom. Geoffrey took part with Matilda, who confirmed to him whatever his grandfather or father ever had in lands, forts, and castles, particularly the Tower of London, with the castle under it, to fortify at his pleasure. She also conferred upon

* A *hide* was as much land as would maintain a family; some call it sixty, some eighty, and others one hundred acres. A *carucate* was as much arable land as could be tilled in a year with one plough. A *villane* was one who held land by a base tenure, and was in a state of great subserviency to his lord. The *bordars* were those who had a bord, or cottage, with a small parcel of land, on condition that they should supply the lord with poultry and eggs, and other small provisions, "for his board and entertainment."

† At the present day, it may seem strange that wood-land should have been rated or let by the number of *hogs* it would fatten. This, however, arose from the forests of oak, which were then cultivated, and from the abundance of acorns, which, by this means, were furnished for the use of *swine*.

him the office of hereditary sheriff of London and Middlesex, Hertfordshire, and Essex, and the pleas and trials of all causes in those counties, with the third penny from the pleas of the sheriffalty. She granted him likewise one hundred pounds in lands at Newport, to hold in demesne; and licence to remove the market from Newport to his castle at Walden, receiving all customs, tolls, &c. belonging to the market. The market at Walden was to be held on Thursdays and Sundays; and the fair there to begin on Whitsun-eve, and continue all that week. In addition to this, she made him very considerable grants of land at Depdene, Bonhunt, and the woods of Chatelege (Catlidge), and elsewhere; gave him all Maldon, with its appurtenances; and, finally, presented to him and his heirs the office of chief justice of Essex, and all pleas and forfeitures appertaining to the crown.

It was not long that Matilda was able to support her hereditary dignity; nor was the defection of Geoffrey long concealed from Stephen. By order of the king, he was apprehended at St. Alban's in 1143; and, to obtain his liberty, was obliged to surrender up to him the Tower of London, and his castles at Walden and Pleshy. It will not appear extraordinary that, in such lawless times, these indignities were resented by a man of his disposition. Accordingly, with a band of partisans, as desperate as himself, he ravaged the demesnes of the sovereign and his adherents without mercy, and seized and plundered the abbey of Ramsey, in Huntingdonshire; on which account he was excommunicated. He is said to have been shot in the head by an arrow, while besieging the king's castle at Burwell, of which wound he died on the 14th of September, 1144.

His eldest son, being in arms against Stephen, was made prisoner and banished. His second son, Geoffrey, was restored, by Henry the second, to all the lands belonging to his father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, as likewise to the earldom of Essex. He married Eustatia, a relation of the king, from whom he was divorced, and two of his best lordships, Waltham and Walden, were taken from him. At his death, however, in 1167, they reverted to his brother and successor, William de Mandeville, who went in pilgrimage to the Holy Land, with Philip, earl of Flanders, in 1177, and returned in 1179. He spent a great part of his time in Normandy, where he was entrusted with the custody of several forts and castles. But, having departed this life at Roanne, in 1190, his body was buried in the abbey of Mortimer, in Normandy, and his heart was brought over and deposited in the chapter-house of Walden priory, to which house he gave half his lordship of Walden, with half of the meadows and pastures, the mill, the little park, and his tenants and their services.

Beatrix, his aunt, would have succeeded to his estates, as his lawful heir; but, being much advanced in years, waived her right in favour of her younger son, Geoffrey de Say. This was afterwards transferred to Geoffrey Fitz-Piers, who had married her grand-daughter (by her eldest son, William, then deceased), and obtained this barony.

BOOK II. The administration of the earldom of Essex, and the title of earl, were conferred upon him. But the moiety of the lordship of Walden, with the appurtenances, which William de Mandeville had given to the monks here, was taken from them by Geoffrey, notwithstanding their earnest efforts, and repeated applications to the king, the bishop, and the pope; while only one hundred acres of arable land, the mill, and a meadow towards Periton, were left to them.

It appears that he was sheriff of this county and of Hertfordshire, from 1191 to 1194, and died October 2d, 1212, with a high character for his generosity, his legal skill, and that consequence which his alliance by blood and friendship with some of the chief persons of the nation necessarily procured him.

His eldest son, Geoffrey Fitz-Piers, took the name of Mandeville, but died without issue in 1216. His next brother, William, earl of Essex, died in 1227, unmarried,* and entailed his lands, with the earldom of Essex, upon his sister Maud, wife of Henry de Bohun, earl of Hereford, high constable of England. She died in August, 1236. Humphrey, her son, succeeded her, who also died in 1275. His grandson and heir, of the same name, died in December 1298. His son and successor, Humphrey, in 1322. His son John in 1335; who, having no child surviving, was succeeded by his brother Humphrey, who had no issue. In 1347, he had licence to embattle his manor-house at Walden. Humphrey, dying in 1361, had for his heir, his nephew, Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, baron of Brecknock, and high-constable of England. At his death, in 1372, he left two daughters, co-heirs; Eleanor, married to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, and Mary, to Henry, then earl of Derby, afterwards king Henry the fourth.

Ann, eldest daughter to Eleanor, (married first to Thomas, and Edmund, lords Stafford, and afterwards to William Bourchier, earl of Eu,) became heiress to one moiety of the Bohun estates; and king Henry the fifth, in right of his mother, to the other moiety. Upon the partition of this noble inheritance, in 1421, the manor of Walden, then valued at seventy-two pounds, two shillings and three-pence, with a park, fell to the share of the king; and the manor was divided into the manors of Walden, and Brook Walden. The family having granted parcels of them to different persons, these fees, or parts of fees, took from their subordinate owners the appellations of De le Mares, Cloptons, Westleys, &c. But these diminutive manors have been incorporated into the others; and, of late, the only acknowledged manors are those of Walden, or Cheping Walden, and Brook Walden.

In the year 1136, Geoffrey de Mandeville, the first earl of Essex of that family, and of whom mention has already been made, founded a priory, about a mile from the town, and on the site of which Audley End was afterwards erected. This priory was

* Arms of Mandeville, earl of Essex: Quarterly, or and gules. Geoffrey Fitz-Piers, the second earl, charged them with an escarbuncle of eight staves, pomette and fleury, sable.

converted into an abbey in the year 1190, dedicated to the honour of God, of St. Mary, and St. James, and of the order of the Benedictines. It was richly endowed with lands and churches, of which Walden was one; and appears to have continued to flourish, until the suppression, in the reign of Henry the eighth. It was valued (according to Speed) at four hundred and six pounds, fifteen shillings and eleven pence, and was granted, in 1538, to sir Thomas Audley, who was, at that time, a great favourite with the king. He was born at Earl's Colne, in this county, in 1488, was bred to the law, and in 1526, was appointed autumn reader in the Inner Temple. Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, to whom he was chancellor, recommending him to the king, he was chosen speaker of the house of commons, styled afterwards "the long" or "the black parliament." In this service, he acquitted himself so much to the king's satisfaction, that the next year he constituted him attorney of the dutchy of Lancaster, serjeant-at-law, and king's serjeant.

Upon the surrender of the great seal by sir Thomas More, in 1532, the king delivered it to Audley, with the title of lord keeper, and knighted him. The year after, he was appointed lord chancellor, in which office he continued above twelve years. Soon after he was made chancellor, the king gave him the priory of Christ church, Aldgate, which he made his town residence. In 1538, he was created baron Audley of Walden, and installed knight of the garter. In April, 1544, he resigned the office of chancellor, owing to ill health; died the last day of that month, and was buried in the chancel of the church.

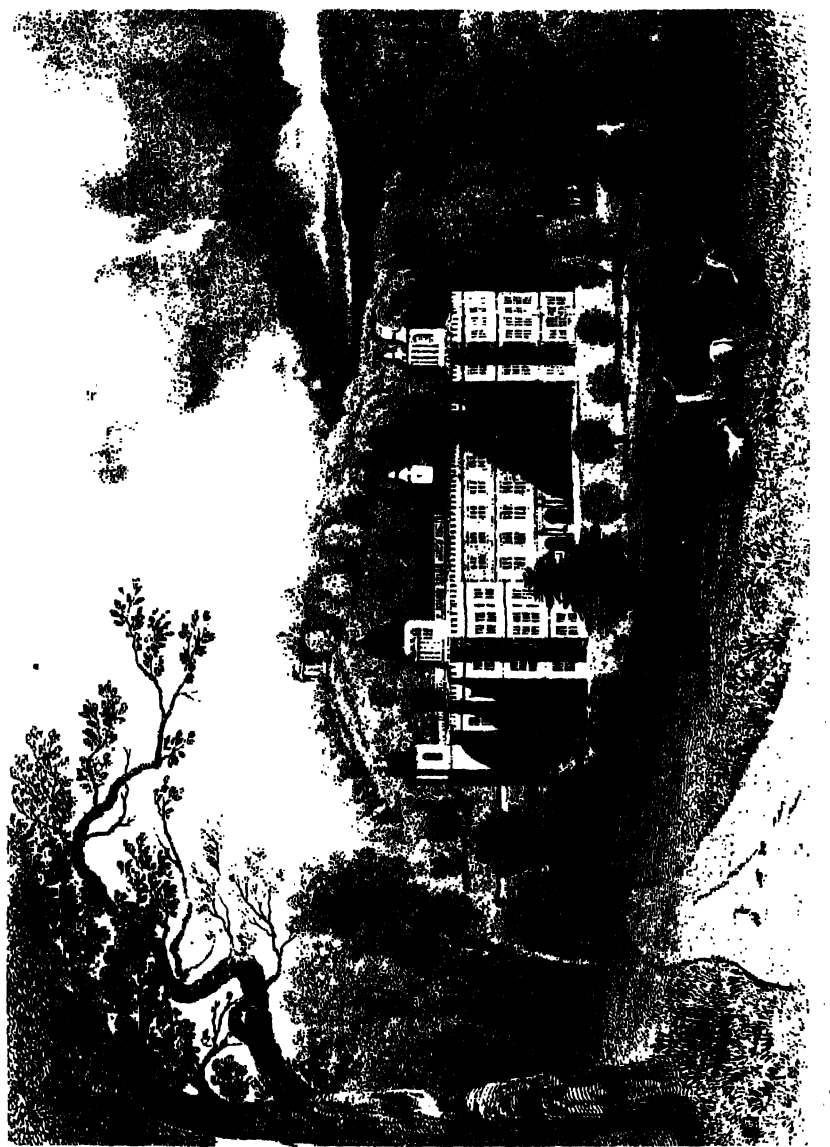
By Elizabeth, his second lady, daughter of Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorset, he had two daughters; Margaret, four years and a half old, at the time of his decease, and Mary, a year younger. The latter died when about seven years of age, and Margaret became sole heir to her father's estates. She married, first, lord Henry Dudley, a younger son of John, duke of Northumberland, slain at the battle of St. Quintin's, in Picardy, in 1557; and, secondly, Thomas Howard, fourth duke of Norfolk, and had by him two sons, Thomas and William, and two daughters; Elizabeth, who died in her infancy; and Margaret, married to Robert Sackville, earl of Dorset. Their mother died the 10th of January, 1569.

The duke of Norfolk, having been declared guilty of high treason for his political intrigues with Mary, queen of Scots, was beheaded on the 2d of June, 1572, and his estates were forfeited to the crown. However, his son, Thomas Howard, was restored in blood in 1584. He was one of those brave men who signalized themselves in the defeat of the Spanish armada in 1588; and, for his good services therein, received, at sea, the honour of knighthood from the lord high admiral. He afterwards distinguished himself in several other expeditions, and particularly as vice-admiral, at the taking of Cadiz, in 1596, where he commanded the attack on the Spanish ships in the harbour. The year following, he was summoned to parliament, by the

BOOK II. title of baron Howard of Walden. In May, 1597, he was installed a knight of the garter; and in 1603, created earl of Suffolk. In 1614, he was constituted lord high treasurer of England, and held the office four years. He built the extensive and magnificent mansion, which, in honour of his maternal grandfather, he called Audley End. He died on the 28th of May, 1626, and was buried in the vault at Walden.

Theophilus, his eldest son and successor, was made a knight of the garter in 1628. He died the 3d of June, 1640, was buried at Walden, and succeeded by James, his son, who had been made knight of the bath at the coronation of Charles the first. He had three wives: the first was Susan, daughter of Henry Rich, earl of Holland, by whom he had an only daughter, Essex, married to Edward lord Griffin, of Dingley, in Northamptonshire. By his second wife, Barbara, daughter of sir Edward Villiers, he had one daughter, Elizabeth, married to Thomas Felton, esq. afterwards a baronet. His third wife, Ann, eldest daughter of Robert Montagu, earl of Manchester, by whom he had no issue, survived him many years. Leaving only two daughters, he was succeeded by his third brother, George; who, dying soon afterwards without issue male, was succeeded by his brother Henry, at whose decease, in 1709, he had for his successor his son Henry; who, in 1706, had been created baron of Chesterford, and earl of Binden. In 1714, he was constituted lord lieutenant of Essex, and in 1718 departed this life, leaving his son, Charles William, for his successor; who, in 1719, was also appointed to the same lieutenancy. In 1721-2, he died, in the twenty-ninth year of his age, without issue; whereupon the title and estates reverted to his uncle Edward, second son of Henry, the fifth earl. He died the 22d of June, 1731, in the sixtieth year of his age, unmarried; and was succeeded by his brother Charles; who, dying two years afterwards, left an only son, Henry: he also died the 22d of April, 1745, intestate, and without issue, in the thirty-ninth year of his age; whereupon the earldom devolved on Henry Bowes Howard, a descendant from Thomas Howard, earl of Berkshire, second son of Thomas, the first earl of Suffolk above-mentioned.

But, in pursuance of a settlement made in 1687, by James, the third earl, in favour of his daughters, failing the issue male of his father, the estates were claimed and obtained under a decree of chancery, by the representatives of those daughters, Elizabeth, countess of Portsmouth, and Anne, her sister, married to William Whitwell, esq., of Oundle, in Northamptonshire, as co-heirs of lady Essex Howard, wife of lord Griffin, and George William, lord Hervey, afterwards earl of Bristol, grandson to lady Elizabeth Felton. Nevertheless, the house and park, which had been sold by earl James to Charles the second, previously to the date of the settlement, though returned to the family by king William, was excepted from its operation, and adjudged to the earl of Effingham, as heir-at-law to Henry, earl of Suffolk, before mentioned; and purchased from lord Effingham by lady Portsmouth. At her decease in 1762,





she bequeathed her landed property to the son of her sister, John Griffin Whitwell, an officer in the army, who assumed the surname of Griffin, in pursuance of his aunt's will. Colonel Griffin, on his return from the campaigns in Germany, during which he had served with distinction, was invested with the order of the Bath, and progressively rose to the rank of Field Marshal. After having been frequently chosen to serve in parliament for Andover, he, in 1784, established his claim to the ancient barony of Howard de Walden, derived, through his maternal ancestor, lady Essex Howard, and took his seat in the house of Lords. In 1788, he was created baron Braybrooke, of Braybrooke, in Northamptonshire, with remainder to Richard Aldworth Neville, esq. of Billingbear, to whom, as his nearest relation, he left the Audley End estates, at his death in 1797, at which period he was colonel of the 4th Dragoons, and lord lieutenant of Essex. Lord Braybrooke died in February 1825, leaving two sons; Richard, then member of parliament for Berkshire, the present lord; and George, in holy orders, master of Magdalene College, Cambridge, who assumed the name of Grenville, pursuant to the will of his cousin, James lord Glastonbury.*

The residence of this noble family, known by the name of Audley End, was built by Thomas, the first earl of Suffolk, already mentioned. It was commenced in 1603, and finished in 1616, and is situated in a finely-wooded park, about one mile west of Saffron Walden. The present mansion, although a large and beautiful structure, comprises but a small part of the original building, which, if not superior, was deemed equal to the palaces at Hampton Court, Nonsuch, and Richmond. The model was brought from Italy, and is said to have cost five hundred pounds. The whole expense of the building has been estimated at two hundred thousand pounds: the style of its architecture is chiefly Elizabethan.

Audley
End.

When first completed, it consisted of various ranges of buildings, surrounding two quadrangular courts: that to the west was very spacious, and was approached through a grand entrance gateway, between four round towers. The corridors, on the north and south sides, were supported by columns of alabaster. Within there was a smaller court, three sides of which remain, and form the present mansion. Many parts were taken down at different times, including the gallery, two hundred and twenty-six feet in length, thirty-two feet wide, and twenty-four high, which was removed by the countess of Portsmouth in 1749. Two uniformly projecting porches ornament the western front of the present mansion, each having seventeen marble columns at the angles; some of them white, with black bases and capitals; the others of a dark veined

* Arms of Braybrooke: First and fourth; sable, a griffin segreant argent, beaked and langued or, for Griffin: second and third; quarterly gules, a saltier argent, charged with the rose of Lancaster: Fretty of ten pieces, or and gules, in a canton per pale, or and ermine, a ship of three tops, sable, for Neville. Crests: a talbot's head erased, sable, for Griffin, issuing from a ducal coronet or, a bull's head, pied, proper attired, of the first, charged on the neck with the rose of Lancaster. Supporters: Two lions regardant argent, maned and tufted sable, accolloed with an olive branch proper. •Motto: Ne vile velis.

BOOK II.

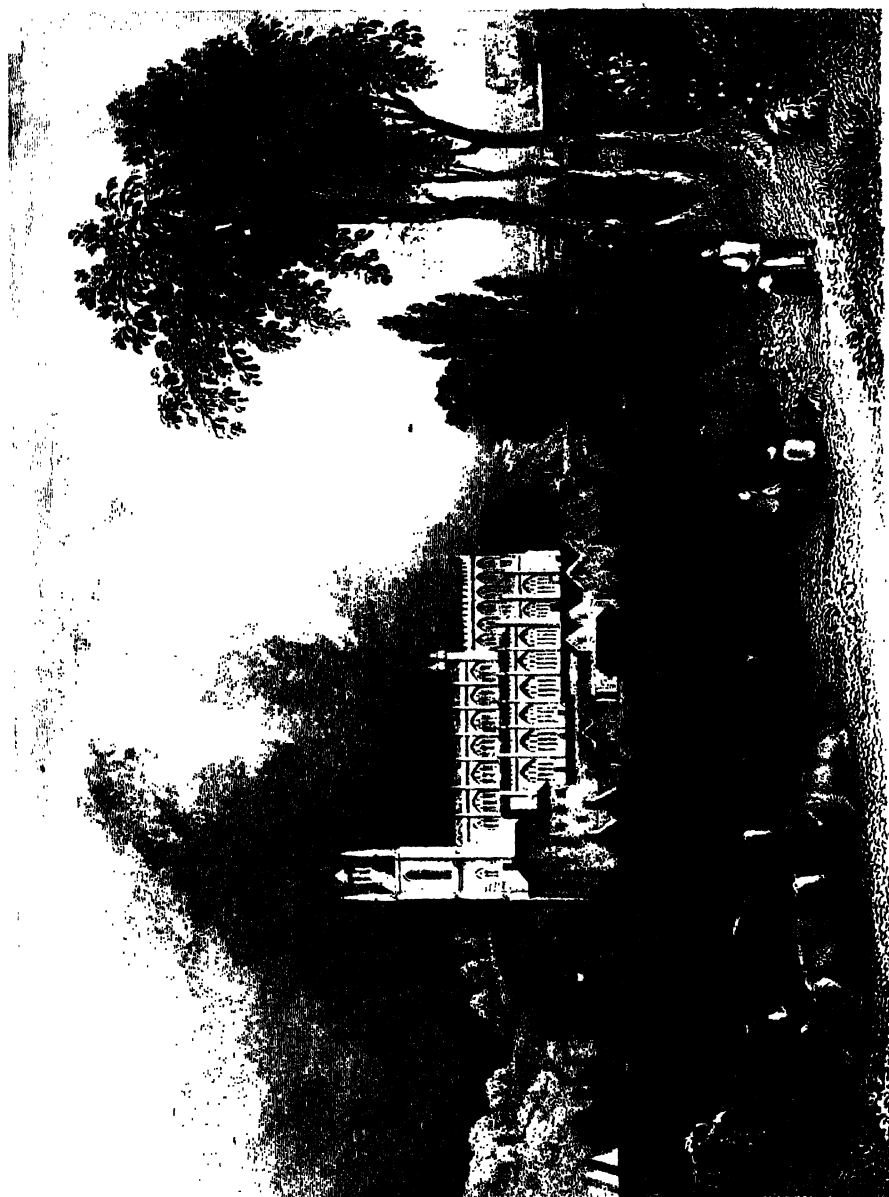
marble, with white bases and capitals. The ballustrade of these and of the house is perforated, and variously ornamented; and the summit is adorned with turrets and clustered chimneys. The windows are large and square headed, with numerous stone mullions, and several of them project from the rooms. No expense was spared by lord Howard to render the interior of the mansion, which he found in a very dilapidated state, commodious and handsome; and his example has been followed by his successors, who have scarcely suffered a year to pass away without making some alteration. The hall, which retains its ancient character, may be considered as an interesting specimen of the age to which it belongs, and the carved screen at the north end is well worthy of notice. The saloon, which is approached from the hall by folding doors, at the top of a double flight of stone steps, is spacious and lofty, and has a ceiling of stucco, ornamented with pendants. The frieze, cornice, and pilasters, are richly carved and gilded, and the Suffolk arms are emblazoned on the mantle-piece of the chimney. The room also contains portraits of many of the distinguished personages connected with the history of the place, let into pannels, on one of which is the following inscription:—

Inscrip-
tion.

“ Henry 8. A.D. 1539, granted the monastery of Walden, on the site of which this house now stands, to lord chancellor Audley. Elizabeth, A.D. 1597, by special writ, summoned to parliament Thomas lord Howard de Walden, in the next reign created earl of Suffolk. He built this house A.D. 1616. After many reductions, it descended, A.D. 1762, to sir John Griffin Griffin, K.B., confirmed lord Howard de Walden, Geo. III., A.D. 1784. He, among other additions and alterations, refitted (the ceiling excepted) this saloon, to commemorate the noble families, through whom, with gratitude, he holds these possessions.”

In the drawing-room adjoining, on the south side, are some good pictures of the Italian and Flemish schools; and the library, at the extremity of the wing, which has been recently completed in a style to accord with the other apartments on the same floor, contains a good collection of books, principally acquired since the death of lord Howard. The chapel at the north-west end of the building was fitted up about the year 1771, under the direction of Hobcraft, and has since remained unaltered. The ceiling of the family seat is decorated with the arms of Audley and Howard, and their numerous quarterings. The windows of stained glass were executed by Picket, of York, from designs by Rebecca. The state apartments and summer dining-room are on the ground-floor, and the house contains numerous portraits of members of the different families to whom its possessors have been allied.

Contiguous to the house is a flower-garden, recently laid out, and the park and grounds are pleasantly diversified with hill and dale. Through this delightful spot there are two public walks, one leading towards Littlebury, and the other towards Audley End. The latter, in the direction of which there has been a slight alteration within the last two years, by bringing the southern entrance nearer to the town, is so constructed as to form a private carriage-way, as well as a foot-path for the public.



View of W. House

1874

The ancient building of brick, at the southern extremity of the village of Audley End, probably used as an almshouse or hospital in the time of the monastery, is not devoid of interest to the antiquary. It consists of two courts, one of which was long since converted into a farm house: the other is occupied by poor persons, selected by the owners of Audley End, to whom the property devolved with the rest of the demesne. There is, however, no tradition of any charitable endowment connected with the buildings; but the dwellings are neat and comfortable, and afford a desirable asylum to those who are permitted to reside there. The chapel, now used as a barn, between the two courts, is in a ruinous state; and, with the exception of an iron cross still surmounting one of the gables, no traces of its original destination are observable.

Returning to Walden, from the village of Audley End, the first building which arrests the attention, as most deserving of notice, is the church, an edifice which must be admitted by every one to be the chief architectural ornament of the town. On the site of the present beautiful fabric, an old church is said to have formerly stood, the revenues of which were connected with the abbey, to which the church of Walden, together with those of Arksden, Great Chiswell, Elsenham, and many others, were attached. The present is a comparatively modern building, chiefly erected in the reign of Henry the seventh, and about the close of the fifteenth century.

A vicarage was instituted here by Reginald the first abbot, who came in about 1174. Near two hundred years after, the abbey wanting money to repair the damages sustained by a great wind, the monks prevailed with the bishop of London to appoint a commission for re-uniting the vicar's portion to their revenue, they providing a secular priest. This was so settled: but, about 1435, a vicarage was again appointed, to be in the gift of the convent, and an agreement was made between the abbot and the vicar, specifying what his tythes should be. Upon the dissolution, the patronage was placed in the hands of lord Audley, and has since continued in those of his descendants.

The present structure is justly considered one of the most stately and beautiful parish churches in the kingdom. Its appearance, whichever way you enter the town, is imposing and magnificent; nor does it lose any thing of its architectural beauty and grandeur by a nearer approach. The western end is remarkably fine, and has been lately improved by the erection of a spire, from a design by Messrs. Rickman and Hutchinson, at an expense of between three and four thousand pounds.* The work is admirably executed, and cannot fail to excite the commendation of every beholder. The interior of the church is very neat and well arranged: the windows are ornamented with mullions and tracery, between several of which are niches, probably intended for the statues or effigies of saints. The roofs of the nave, chancel, and side aisles are of timber, elegantly painted; and the spandrels between the arches, which support the centre, are well carved in stone. Over the south porch is a council chamber, in which

* This sum was to be raised from the church rates by a vote of the parishioners in 1831.

BOOK II. the corporation annually meet to choose the mayor. Not far from this is a strong and spacious vault, of curious workmanship, supposed to have been co-eval with the church; but there does not appear to have been any family deposited therein. It has, therefore, for many years, been converted into a charnel-house. The eastern end, and part of the south aisle of the chancel, were built by lord Audley; the north part of the chancel by the inhabitants, assisted greatly by John Leche, vicar of the parish from 1489, till his death in 1521. At the altar is a painting, copied by Peters, from Correggio's Holy Family, said to have cost five hundred guineas, which is surmounted by a dove in stained glass.

The burying place of the Howard family is under the communion table. The vault was originally approached by steps from the chancel; but the present entrance is on the outside, through the porch, which projects at the eastern end of the church. On the left side are ranged the coffins of the six last earls of Suffolk,* who possessed Audley End; and, on the right side, those of lord Howard de Walden and his two wives. Several plates are affixed to the walls, taken off the coffins of older members of the family, when their remains were lowered into a vault, beneath the pavement of the present one, to make room for their descendants.

On entering the church, one of the first impressions made upon the mind is connected with its lightness, neatness, and accommodation. It was completely repaired about forty years ago, at an expense of little less than eight thousand pounds. To this the late lord Howard contributed very munificently, and erected, for the use of himself and family, a handsome pew gallery, between the nave and the chancel. An account of this general repair of the church is recorded by the following inscription over the southern door:—

Inscrip-
tion.

“Deo optimo maximo auspice templum hoc sacro-sanctum vetustate pene prolapsum restituerunt Johannes Griffin, Dominus Howard de Walden, et Dominus Braybrooke de Braybrooke, patronus et paræciani, A D. 1791, 1792, 1793.

Translation:

“Under the propitious eye of God, most mighty and most blessed, this church, consecrated to his holy service, and almost fallen into decay by age, John Griffin, lord Howard de Walden, and lord Braybrooke de Braybrooke, the patron, together with the parishioners, restored, in the years of our Lord 1791, 1792, 1793.”

So fresh does the work appear, that few persons would suppose so many years can have rolled away since the restoration and the improvements, to which this inscription refers.

There are, however, several other alterations of a more recent date. Many seats have been erected for the convenience of the congregation, and a fine-toned organ, with a handsome gallery to receive it, has been built at the west end of the church, at

* For their history, see pages 110, 111.

the expense of many hundred pounds. This excellent instrument of sacred music was opened for public worship, January 7th, 1824.

To enumerate at large the various monumental inscriptions in this church, would much exceed the limits of a general history. There are, however, two, which, from their antiquity and curiosity, as well as from the relation they bear to the history of the church itself, it would be improper to omit. Of these, one of the most singular, and which affords something like a specimen of the poetical genius of the times, is that of lord Audley. His tomb, of touch marble, which is in the south chancel, has the following inscription:—

“ The stroke of deathes inevitable dart ; hath
Now, alas ! of lyfe beraft the hart ; of syr
Thomas Audeley of the garter knight ; late
Chancellour of Englund under our prince of

Might ; Henry the eight wurthy high renoun ; and
Made by him lord Audley of thys town ; obiit
Ultimo die Aprilis anno Domini 1544, regni regis
Henrici 8. 36. Cancellariatus sui 13, et sua ætatis 56.”

Inscrip-
tions.

In the north chancel is an altar tomb of John Leche, to whom allusion has been already made. In addition to the vicarage, which he held at Walden, he was also a member, as was likewise his sister, dame Bradbury, of “the gilde or fraternity of the Holy Trinity,” established by letters patent from king Henry the eighth, dated at Westminster, the 24th of March. Leche was distinguished for his piety, benevolence, and magnificence ; as appears, among other circumstances, from the following epitaph, engraven on a fillet of brass, running round the altar tombstone which covers his remains:—

“ Quo non est, nec erit, nec clarior exstitit ullus
Unctorum clausum hoc marmore pulvis habet.
Huic Leche nomen erat, divinæ legis amator,
Hujus quem templi curam habuisse palam est.
Iste huic multa dabat sacro donaria fano,
Inceptique operis sedulus auctor erat.

Pauperibus fuit inde pius, pavit miserosque,
Et me, qui temerè hæc carmina composui.
Hujus sit ergo animæ cælum jam munus ut altum,
Huc qui ades instanti pectore funde preces.
Spes mea in Deo est.”

Translation :

“ Enclosed within this altar tomb, the dust contains a man, than whom no saint is now, or was, or will be more renowned. His name was Leche,—a lover of the law of God,—and who, it is manifest, had the cure of this church. Many benefactions did he confer on this sacred place ; and was the diligent and persevering promoter of the building from its commencement. To the poor he was beneficent ; the wretched he kindly relieved ; and me, among the number, who have ventured to compose this tribute to his memory. That heaven above may, therefore, be the reward of his soul, do you who are present with a fervent heart pour forth your prayers. My hope is in God.”

On the north side of the church is an elevated seat for the children of the charity school, against which the following list of benefactors is inscribed:—

“ Mr. Thomas Penning, merchant, gave by his will five hundred pounds, in 1718.—

BOOK II. Ann, countess dowager of Suffolk, by her will, fifty pounds, in 1720.—Charles Wale, by his will, a rent charge of five pounds a year for ever, in 1722.—Rebecca Dent, by her will, one hundred pounds, in 1722.—Dame Elizabeth Osborne, by her will, in 1733, gave the sum of two hundred pounds, to be laid out in the purchase of lands.”

As it regards the dimensions of the building, suffice it to say, that its entire length, including the porch at the eastern end, is two hundred feet; its breadth eighty-two. The height of the tower is eighty-five feet, that of the spire one hundred and eight, making a total, from the ground to the top, of one hundred and ninety-three feet; but, on account of the hill, on which it stands, presenting an elevation of little less than two hundred and fifty feet from the lower parts of the town. The tower contains a peal of eight bells. The rev. Nicholas Bull was inducted to the vicarage in 1803, and is the present incumbent.

Dissent-
ing places
of wor-
ship.

The dissenters, who are very numerous in this town, have six places of worship; of which that devoted to the society of *Friends*, appears to have been the earliest. Although the meeting-house was not opened until 1676, yet, for many years before, meetings were held by them in the town. There is a regular register of births from 1639, and of burials from 1657.

The congregation of *Independents*, in the Abbey-lane, had its origin in 1665. On the 24th of August, 1662, came into operation the “Act of Uniformity,” by which two thousand of the clergy were led to relinquish their benefices. Among these was the rev. Jonathan Paine, incumbent of St. Michael’s, Bishops Stortford, who was an active and devoted minister of the gospel. He preached at that place, till compelled to relinquish his engagements by the five-mile act, in 1665. He then visited the neighbouring town of Saffron Walden, and had a congregation, which, under the shelter of the proclamation, made by Charles the second, March 15th, 1672, formed themselves into a regular worshipping assembly. Some of his hearers were the immediate descendants of the congregation gathered together by the successful labours of John Bradford, the martyr, who was for some time a preacher in the parish church.

In 1692, the site of the present place of worship was purchased, and the rev. William Payne, M. A., was the first minister. He was followed by the rev. Thomas Harris, the rev. S. Hayward, author of many celebrated theological works, the rev. James Sutherland, M. A., and other ministers in succession. In 1811, the old place of worship was taken down, and the present building erected. The rev. William Clayton, who was at that time minister of the congregation, continued to occupy it till April, 1831, when he resigned his pastoral charge, and is succeeded by the rev. Luke Forster, whose acceptance of the office was publicly recognised, December 5, 1832.

A separation from the congregation, then assembling in the Abbey-lane, took place in 1774, when a large proportion of the people came away with the rev. Joseph Gwennap, and built the *Baptist* chapel, at the entrance of the town. Mr. Gwennap

left Walden in 1783, and was succeeded by the rev. Matthew Walker, in 1786. He resigned the station in 1809, and was followed by the rev. Josiah Wilkinson, who was ordained October 18th, in the same year, and is still minister of the congregation.

In 1711, a society of dissenters, distinguished by the name of general Baptists, was formed, which has continued to the present time. One of the first ministers was the rev. Joseph Eedes, who presided over it from 1729 to 1769. He was succeeded by the rev. Thomas Barom; who, having two other congregations to serve, one at Melbourne and the other at Foulbourne, was assisted by Mr. Christopher Payn. Mr. Barom resigned about the year 1790, and was followed by the rev. Stephen Philpot, who died in 1821.

In 1819, a secession took place from different congregations in the town, owing to a difference of opinion on certain points of doctrine. After meeting in an apartment in the High Street for nearly three years, the present place was erected, at the extremity of the town, on the London road, and opened for worship in 1822. The rev. John Dane Player is minister.

The last place built for public worship is Wesleyan. It was opened in 1824.

There are but few towns in the Kingdom which, considering its population, present on the Sabbath a more interesting spectacle than Walden. Perhaps in no one is that sacred day more carefully and religiously observed than here. To this cause, aided no doubt by the care which is taken of the instruction of the young, and the vigilance of the magistracy, may be traced the order, by which, generally speaking, the town has been distinguished.

There is certainly very considerable attention paid here to the welfare of the rising generation. Beside those places of instruction which are intended for other classes of society, there are two schools upon the *national* system, in which about two hundred and sixty children of both sexes receive daily education. More than three hundred others are connected with the Sabbath schools among the Dissenters, beside those who attend the church school only on the Sabbath, or receive gratuitous education among the Dissenters during the week. There is in addition a blue-coat school, under the direction of the mayor and aldermen, in which about twenty-four children are clothed and educated for three years. There is also a grammar-school, which, from its antiquity, its endowments, and other circumstances connected with its history, demands particular attention. It is said to owe its foundation to "the good intente, mynde, and godlic purpose" of the rev. John Leche, which was partly effected during his life-time, and fully accomplished after his decease by his sister and heir, dame Johane Bradbury, of London, widow.

National
and other
schools.

It appears by an indenture tripartite, now preserved in the council chamber at Walden, "made the 18th day of May, 1525, and in the seventeenth year of Henry

BOOK II. the eighth, between dame Johane Bradbury on the oon partie, and the treasurer and chambrelains of the fraternity or gilde of the Holy Trinite, in the parish church of Walden, on the seconde partie, and the abbot and covent of the monastery of the same town on the thred partie," that a house and school-room were built by the "said dame Johane and master Leche, opposite the lane called the Vicar's-lane, in the town of Walden." And further, that dame Bradbury thereby granted a rent-charge of twelve pounds per annum, out of the manor of "Willynghall Spayne," in the county of Essex, to the gilde of Walden, for the support of "a priest to say mass, and to teach children grammar in the school, after the order and use of Winchester and Eton." He was to be chosen by the gilde, and examined by the abbot and vicar. After a year's probation, he was to retain the situation for life, except in case of delinquency, or being promoted to any "benefice, with or without cure of souls." In case of infirmity, he was to provide an usher at his own charge. He was to reside in the school-house, and was not to be absent above twenty days in the year, and that by special licence of the vicar.

The first master of the school was William Dawson, clerk. He afterwards became sir William Dawson, and further endowed the school with about five roods of meadow ground, lying almost immediately behind the school premises.

The learned sir Thomas Smith, who was born at Walden, and was secretary to Edward the sixth and queen Elizabeth, had his early education at this school. He purchased the gild of Walden for five hundred and thirty-one pounds fourteen shillings and eleven pence; and, through his interest at court, the school was raised to a royal foundation. It was he that introduced the culture of saffron at Walden, from which it has its present appellation. He was very partial to his native town, and thus described it in his "*de republicâ Anglorum*;" "*Walden vel Saffron Walden, a croco dictum, oppidum in agro blandissimo croco ridente, situm.*"

In 1593, Peter Mauwood, esq. who had been also educated at this school, purchased a piece of land, with a cottage upon it, of about three acres, called "the slade," situate in the parish of Walden, near the road which leads from that place to Hadstock. This is now let for ten pounds per annum.

Besides these endowments, there is some land at Tollesbury, in Essex, which pays a fourth of its rent to the schoolmaster, so long as he remains unbeneficed. The whole of the annual value of the school is about forty pounds, with a house, school-room, and meadow. The management of the school is so far under the control of the mayor and aldermen, that it is left to their discretion "to choose and nominate some fit man to be master," according as "it shall be necessary." The school-room is used at present for the instruction of boys on the national system.

Charities
and cha-
ritable in-
stitutions.

The inhabitants of Walden possess no small share of charities and charitable institutions. The almshouses are the first which deservedly claim our attention. The

present range of buildings, which is two hundred and sixty-two feet in length, is certainly one of the most imposing objects in the place. They were erected in a meadow, belonging to the old estate, at an expense of between four and five thousand pounds, and entered upon in the spring of 1832. Provision is here made for thirty persons who have paid to the parish rates, but who, either by age or misfortune, have been reduced to the necessity of seeking such an asylum. The number is annually filled up, as vacancies may occur, on the first Monday after Christmas.

Independent of two excellent rooms and a cellar, which are assigned to each person elected to this charity, the present allowance is five shillings and six pence per week, seven quarts of beer to a man, and half as much more if he has a wife living with him. There is a fire constantly kept in the hall, for the general benefit of the occupiers, from Michaelmas to old May-day, and occasional donations of wood and money are presented to them at different times in the year. Medical attendance and advice are also furnished them, in case of sickness, free of all charge. Nor can any thing be more convincing of the advantages and comforts of this pleasing retreat, than the earnest manner in which it is sought for, when a vacancy occurs, and the gratitude and satisfaction which are expressed by such as obtain admittance.

The present is, as we have observed, an erection of very recent date. The institution itself, however, has no small claim to antiquity. It appears to have been formed in the year 1400. The following is a brief extract from a copy of the agreement, first made and entered into at its establishment. "In the name of our Lord God Jhu, Amen. Inasmuch as every good deed and work of charity ought and should be had in perpetual mind, therefore, at this present time it is writt and set in memory, that in the year of our Lord God 1400, the most worshipful men and parishioners of Walden, by consent and help of all the commonalty of the aforesaid town, in the reverence of God and of our lady, in help and subsidy of their souls, and of all their friends, ordained and made a house of charity, in a street called Daniel's-lane, &c." The form of agreement here follows at length, from which it appears that the number of inmates originally provided for was thirteen poor men. But, "if any poor strange sick man or woman casually came" by the town, they were to "be received into the foresaid house of alms, and there kept and relieved, until they were recovered and whole of their sickness." The charity was supported by alms begged from the inhabitants, by a person appointed to go round every week, if necessary, and make collections for the purpose. A priest was also appointed to say mass, and the whole establishment was formed upon the principles of the Romish church. Estates were soon left for its support, and, within a hundred and fifty years after its formation, the far larger proportion of the endowments which it now enjoys were in the hands of its managers. But with other monastic establishments it appears to have fallen into the hands of the crown, at the time of the suppression.

BOOK II.

In the reign of Edward the sixth, it was re-granted and confirmed by charter, in consequence of which it has been called "the almshouse of Edward the sixth." By this name it is described in the charter granted by William and Mary, agreeably to the provisions of which it is now governed. The election of members, and the general management of the house, are at the direction of the mayor and aldermen for the time being. Under their superintendence the present range of buildings was erected, and the apartments in the old ones are let at a low rent to the deserving poor of the parish.

In addition to this charity, which appears to have been the first established in Walden, a great number of legacies have been left at different times, of which the following is a brief outline.

In 1481, a house and land were left by Geoffrey Symond, *alias* Heyreman, at first for superstitious uses; afterwards to the fraternity of our lady's gilde and their heirs, and are now part of the almshouse estate. • In 1676, Samuel Leader left a house to maintain one poor person in the almshouse more than before. In 1612, William Turner left five pounds a year, charged on lands, for the relief and cherishing of the poor people in the almshouse, and five pounds a year for the poor of Walden for ever. In the fifth year of his reign, Henry the eighth, in conjunction with Katherine Semar, master Leche, and dame Jane Bradbury his sister, gave houses, lands, rent-charges, &c. by letters patent, and by deeds or wills, for the support of the grammar-school. In 1623, Thomas Adams, esq. left copyhold lands at Tollesbury; one fourth to the overseers, towards clothing the poor; one fourth to the master of the grammar-school, having no cure or preferment; if otherwise, for further clothing; remaining two fourths to apprentice out poor children. Elizabeth Erswell, in 1652, left houses and lands to be paid to such poor men and women as the corporation should approve. William Leader, in the reign of Charles the second, left a messuage and lands, to be given in bread to the poor. For the same purpose, or money in lieu thereof, Anthony Pennystone, in 1659, left two hundred pounds, since laid out in lands, under the direction of the court of chancery. In 1682, land was given by Matthew Bronfield, to clothe and put forth children apprentices. Lettuce Martin, in the fifth of Elizabeth, left three pounds six shillings and eight pence to the poor of Audley End and Walden, to be paid annually out of lands. In 1692, land was left by Haynes Bailie, to apprentice one child out of six parishes yearly, of which Walden is one. Jane Sparrow, widow, and Joseph Sparrow, in 1705, left a house and barn, the rents to be distributed by the corporation to poor inhabitants of honest life, overburdened with children, or meeting with accidents in the world. In 1717, Thomas Penning, esq. bequeathed five hundred pounds, laid out in the purchase of lands, by order of the court of chancery, toward educating children in the charity-school. Charles Wale, esq. in 1719, for the same purpose, left a rent-charge of five pounds yearly. In 1738, dame Elizabeth Osborne left two hundred pounds, to be laid out in lands, for the benefit and support of the

charity-school. James, earl of Suffolk, in 1688, and Edmund Turner, esq. of Walden, in the same year, left upwards of two hundred and thirty pounds, since laid out in lands, by order of the court of chancery, for the poor of Walden. In 1700, Edmund Turner, of Audley End, left two hundred pounds to be laid out in lands, and the rents to be divided: two thirds to Audley End, and one third to the poor of Walden. Richard Reynolds, esq. in 1734, left a house for a workhouse, conveyed in consideration of one hundred and forty pounds raised by the parishioners. In 1744, Henry, earl of Suffolk, gave to the parish a piece of ground for a pest house, on which it now stands. Sarah, viscountess of Suffolk, and also viscountess of Faulkland, in 1776, left six hundred pounds for the benefit of twenty poor men, and nineteen poor women of Walden. In 1623, Thomas Turner left lands for five dozen loaves of bread weekly to the poor; twenty shillings as an increase of diet to the poor of the almshouse yearly; twenty shillings for a sermon; one pound thirteen shillings and fourpence to the ringers; and six and eightpence to the parish clerk. A rent-charge of five pounds a year was left by Matthew Rand, to the poor in Castle-street. A small annual sum was left by Mrs. Hubbard, to be distributed to the poor in bread. Jeffrey Symonds, *alias* Heyreman, left land, to repair a road at Sewer's End. And, by the will of the late lord Howard, an annuity was left for clothing annually twelve poor men, and twelve poor women, of the parish of Walden; and five of each sex of the adjoining parish of Littlebury; to be chosen and nominated by the occupier of the mansion-house at Audley End, with the advice of the respective vicars of the said parishes.

Beside the charities, which are rendered permanent by legacies and annuities, there are provisions for the comfort of the poor, derived from voluntary contributions. For several years past, coals have been furnished them at reduced prices during the winter. In 1831, a clothing society was established, the object of which was to induce them to lay by a part of their earnings, which is paid into a bank, provided for the purpose, once a month, and is received by them in full, at the close of the year, in the form of clothing. To encourage them in this act of economy, a bonus is granted them equal to more than one fourth of the whole amount. In 1827, a Ladies' Benevolent Society was formed, with the view of visiting the afflicted poor at their own habitations, and rendering them such relief as their situation might seem to require, and the state of the funds would allow. Each of these institutions has been remarkably well conducted, has afforded relief to numerous families, and is yet in a flourishing condition.

To these may be added the allotments of small portions of land to the labouring classes belonging to the parish. The plan was commenced in 1830, in consequence of the resolution of a vestry held December the 17th, 1829, at a period when the unemployed population was unusually great. Through the zealous and active co-operation

BOOK II. of lord Braybrooke and other gentlemen, the proposal was acted upon without delay; and, at this period, about thirty-five acres are so occupied, consisting, exclusive of the road-ways, of one hundred and fifty-eight allotments, varying from twenty to eighty rods. In these thirty-five acres, upwards of seven hundred individuals have an interest, including the heads of families and their children. Nor does it appear, from subsequent consideration, that any plan has been adopted in country towns and villages, which is better, if equally adapted, to benefit the labourer, and attach him to the soil, from which he is to derive support.

Of these institutions it is one important advantage that, as character is properly regarded in those who make application for their benefit, they become, to no inconsiderable extent, the guardians of the public morals; at all events, they are a check to that gross licentiousness which, in some places, is found to prevail to a disgraceful excess.

Antiquities and other curiosities.

Of the antiquities of Walden, the castle is the first to attract the attention of the tourist. It was built, as we have already observed, by Geoffrey de Mandeville, in the time of William the conqueror. But the documents which remain respecting it are so few, and the history so scanty, that we have it not in our power to give an accurate account of its original dimensions. Only a part of the keep and some of the walls which belonged to the foundation, and formed the dungeon, are now standing. Some of them are thirty feet out of the ground, which has been dug away round them, and which has left them in the state in which they now appear. That it was a place of great strength is evident, and that its extent was very considerable, may be inferred from the remains of old walls, which have been found by workmen when digging for the foundations of modern houses. It is probable that it bore a resemblance to other castles of the same date, and that its original altitude was from fifty to eighty feet greater than any of the earth works which at present are standing. Were this not the case, it would have been an exception to the castles of the same age, many of which yet remain, and to the plan of building them, which was then so generally adopted. The materials of which they were formed varied, according to the places of their erection, and the form according to the choice of the architect. But the manner of their construction, and the apartments of which they consisted, seem to have been pretty uniform, and to have been used for similar purposes in every part of the kingdom.

The Pell, or Repel ditches, form the next subject for the researches of the antiquarian. They are the remains of an ancient encampment, of an oblong form, and were originally of much greater extent than at present. The south bank is about seven hundred feet long, twenty high, fifty broad at the base, and six or eight feet wide at the top. The west bank is five hundred and eighty-eight feet long. Both banks and ditches are extremely bold and well preserved, but the time when they were first formed is not certain. Near to them is a field, now in the occupation of Mr. Wyatt

George Gibson, in which were found, a short time since, the remains of a considerable number of human bodies, evidently of those who had fallen in battle. Out of *ten* holes which were dug promiscuously in different parts of the field, *nine* presented as many bodies. In a trench, about one hundred and twenty feet long, were not fewer than from fifty to seventy; at the end of which, embedded in chalk, were the remains of a man and a horse. From the teeth found in many of the heads which were taken up and examined, and of which even the enamel was entire, they appeared to have been between thirty and fifty years of age. On the breast of one was a buckle, said to be Roman; and in the cavity, which contained the bones of the horse and man, were a Roman tile, and a pot, which appeared to have been exposed to the fire. One of the skulls had the evident marks of a cut from a battle axe, or other sharp weapon; and the bodies, which are to be found in various parts of the field, are not two feet from the surface. From these circumstances it is natural to conclude, that the persons buried fell in battle, and not improbably the ditches just referred to were an embankment, raised for defence at the time of this engagement.

In different parts of the parish have been found the tusks and teeth of elephants, some of them embedded in gravel; some of them below the gravel, in a stratum of black mould; and some in chalk; but most of them from ten to twelve feet below the surface. Marine shells have likewise been discovered in a bed of blue clay.

To these natural curiosities may be added some of an *artificial* kind, which are not undeserving of notice. In an old house in the town is a curious relic of old English workmanship. It consists of a large oaken beam over the fire-place, eight feet six inches in length, and one foot three inches in breadth, at the centre; beautifully carved in relief, with the following devices. The figure of a *ton* is cut in a scroll, between the syllables *myd* and *dyl*; and, being read after them, makes up the word *Myddylton*, probably the name of the person who once possessed the building; and, upon the side of the vessel is a single letter, seemingly an R. to denote his christian name; the date of the year also in Arabic figures, which fix it at 1387, is placed at two transverse angles of the same letter. All the letters, figures, and the bolt of the ton, are formed of the twigs of vines stripped of their leaves.

Over the fire-place in the hall of the old almshouse was a curious plate, with an inscription in old English characters; which, although it does not mention the year, is sufficiently indicative of the time when it was engraven. The following is a full length copy, only in a different letter.

“Orate pro anima magistri Thomæ Bryd, nuper rectoris ecclesiæ parochialis de Mundcn Magna, ac animabus Thomæ Bryd, et Agnetis uxoris suæ parentum ejusdem magistri Thomæ, quibus ex bonis hoc caminum ædificatum est necnon animabus Johannis Bryd, fratris sui et Johannæ uxoris suæ, ac omnium fidelium Domini defunctorum quorum animabus propitiatur Deus. Amen.”

“Pray for the soul of master Thomas Bryd, late rector of the parish church of Great Munden, and for the souls of Thomas Bryd, and Agnes his wife, parents of the said master Thomas, from whose goods this hearth (or chimney) was erected; also for the souls of John Bryd his brother, and Johan his wife, and of all the faithful of the Lord who have departed this life, to whose souls may God be propitious. Amen.”

On the green behind the castle, Dr. Stukeley mentions a singular work called *the maze*, which he supposes to have been a British *cursus*, a place of exercise for the soldiery. He describes it as formed by a number of concentric circles, with four outworks issuing from the sides, all cut in the chalk. It is probable he refers to a spot on the common known now by the same name, and which was re-cut some years since, and turfed with grass, under the direction of Mr. Robinson, whose house was immediately behind it. Although much worn away, the traces of it are still very apparent, but the original design and use of it are, after all, uncertain.*

Alterations and improvements.

Beside the church and the almshouses, to which allusion has been made already, there have been, within the last twenty years, alterations and improvements in the town, which, while they add to the respectability of its appearance, contribute in no small degree to the comfort of its inhabitants.

One of the first of these was set on foot by Mr. Robert Paul, who, having purchased a building which greatly obstructed the entrance to the market-place on the southern side, offered it to the parish for one hundred and ninety pounds, which sum was collected by voluntary contributions. The building alluded to was opposite the White Horse, and extended twenty-seven feet across the road. This was removed, and, instead of an entrance eighteen feet wide, is now presented an opening of forty-five feet.

* Mazy earth works, resembling that mentioned above, are found in different parts of England and Wales. In Cambridgeshire we find them at Comberton and Hilton, and there are several in Dorsetshire and Lincolnshire. In some places they go by the name of *Troy-Towns*, and in others by that of *Julian's Bower*. Dr. Stukeley (*Itin. Curios.*) imagines them to have been introduced by the Romans, and would have us believe that they were intended for practising the game called by the Romans *Troja Ludus*, the origin of which is described in the *Æneid*, (lib. v.) Stukeley's arguments, however, are only the semblance between the names of *Troy Town* and *Troja Ludus*, and between *Julian's Bower* and *Iulus*; and when we consider the nature of the *Troja Ludus* and the appearance of these earth works, his hypothesis appears at least exceedingly improbable. In some parts of England, more particularly towards Wales, *Troy Town* is a name sometimes given to the figure of a labyrinth among the lower orders. In Wales, these earth works are called *Cuer Troi*, and as *troi* signifies in Welsh *to turn* or *wind about*, it would seem that it should rather be interpreted *the winding banks*, than supposed to have any allusion to *Troy*. It may be observed that the word *bower*, when found in names of places like these, seems to be a corruption of the Saxon word *Burg*, which is applied either to a town or to a work made with ramparts of earth. At the maze (called there *mazles*) at Comberton, in Cambridgeshire, it has been a custom, from time immemorial, among the villagers, to hold a feast every three years about the time of Easter. It would seem most probable that such works originally served for some religious ceremony among the Britons, to whom they are generally attributed, as among all the ancient systems the labyrinth was a sacred symbol.—See *Hutchin's History of Dorset*, vol. i. p. 100, 101, for descriptions, with engravings, of mazes in Dorset.—ED.

In 1818, the old market-cross, the removal of which had been long considered a desideratum, was taken down. The gaol was also removed from the market-place, and a house of correction built at the upper part of the town, together with a small hospital for the reception of invalids. The expense of this alteration exceeded four hundred pounds, more than three hundred and thirty of which were voluntary contributions. The market-place is now one of the most open and airy of any in the county.

In 1831, was opened a new market for cattle, on the site of premises lately used as a public-house, and known by the sign of the "eight bells." It is entered by a handsome archway, and is bounded on the road-side by iron pallisades. The expense of this was upwards of twelve hundred pounds, raised also by subscriptions.

Within the last two years a bridge has been built over the Slade, and a good road made for both foot passengers and carriages, towards either Linton or Ashdon.

The hills leading to Cambridge and Newport have been greatly improved by being lowered, and rendered in every respect more commodious both for the ascent and descent of carriages. Footpaths, on different roads near the town, have been made or improved, by which pleasant promenades have been furnished to the inhabitants, especially towards Littlebury and Audley End.

In addition to horticultural and other societies, an institution has lately been formed, the design of which is more particularly to encourage the cultivation of literature and science, by the name of the Saffron Walden Institution. A small museum has been already collected, to which additions are constantly made; and lectures are to be delivered as often as practicable, for the benefit of the public. It is proposed also to erect a commodious building in the vicinity of the castle, in which meetings may be held, and accommodation afforded to societies, which either are or may be established in the town. Under the Reform Act, it has been made one of the polling places for the northern division of the county, embracing fifty-four parishes.

There is a good supply of every necessary comfort of life, at all times during the week. A regular market, however, is kept every Saturday, which is well attended by the inhabitants of the neighbouring towns and villages, and particularly by dealers in corn and cattle. There are also two fairs; one on the Saturday before Midlent Sunday, and the Monday following; and the other on the first and second days in November, unless either of them should fall on the Sabbath; in which case it is kept on the day following. An annual fair has also been kept at Audley End, on the fifth and sixth days of August, with the same exception, which is now removed to Walden.

Markets
and fairs.

It only remains to treat of the manner in which the town is governed, and the several changes which it has undergone. In the reign of Henry the eighth, it was a Guild or Fraternity of the Holy Trinity. In a grant made to it by that king, it is stated that, as he hoped "he might evermore be remembered in their perpetual prayers, so he charitably desired that he might be admitted a brother thereof, and

Government
of
the town.

BOOK II. his dear wife, queen Katherine, a sister.”* This was afterwards dissolved, and, at the intercession of John Smith, esq. and under the influence of his brother, sir Thomas Smith, then secretary to Edward the sixth, a charter was granted by that monarch, rendering Walden a corporate town. By this charter the corporation was to consist of a treasurer, two chamberlains, who were justices of the peace, and twenty-four aldermen. In the reign of James, the town was again incorporated by his letters patent, “both burghers and inhabitants, (in room of the late treasurer, chamberlains, and commonalty,) by the name of mayor and aldermen,” and divers liberties, franchises, and other privileges were granted to the same.

The charter, however, under which the town is now governed, was granted in the reign of William and Mary, by which it is appointed that there shall be “one honest and discreet man, who shall be, and shall be called, the mayor of the town aforesaid; and one man, who shall be, and shall be called, the recorder of the town aforesaid; and twelve honest and discreet men, besides the mayor of the town for the time being, who shall be, and shall be called, the aldermen of the town aforesaid; and one honest and discreet man, who shall be, and shall be called, the town-clerk of the town aforesaid; also one honest and discreet man, who shall be, and shall be called, the coroner of the town aforesaid; to do and execute all and singular the things, which do there belong or appertain to the office of a coroner of the town aforesaid.” The recorder, the deputy-recorder, the mayor, the ex-mayor, and the two senior aldermen, are justices of the peace; and the mayor is to continue in office one whole year, or until the appointment of one of the aldermen to occupy his place. This appointment is required to be made on the feast of St. Michael, from year to year.

The gentlemen who at present act under this charter are the following:—

The right hon. lord Braybrooke, recorder; Vicesimus Knox, esq. deputy-recorder; Charles Barnes Wilkins, esq. mayor. Aldermen: William Mapletoft, esq.; Thomas Smith, esq.; Charles Fiske, esq.; Samuel Fiske, esq.; John Archer, esq.; Thomas Archer Catlin, esq.; Nathaniel Catlin, esq.; Stephen Robinson, esq.; Charles T. Master, esq.; Henry Burrows, esq.; C. T. Master, town-clerk and coroner.

This extensive and improving parish is between twenty and thirty miles in circumference: in 1821, it contained four thousand one hundred and fifty-four, and, in 1831, as already stated, four thousand seven hundred and sixty-two inhabitants.†

* See Strype's life of sir Thomas Smith, in 1698.

† The preceding interesting and very complete history of Audley End, and of Saffron Walden, is from the pen of the rev. J. Wilkinson, of that town, who has kindly contributed it to this work.

GREAT CHESTERFORD.

The district extending north north-west from Saffron Walden, and including Great and Little Chesterford, appears to have been divided at an early period, and in the most ancient records bears these distinctive appellations. The Saxon name, which is written *Ġearſtenford*, is derived from *Ġearſten*, the Saxon form given to the Roman word *castrum*, alluding to the camp there, and from a ford over the river, which is supposed to have been there. The village* is pleasantly situated, with an open prospect into Cambridgeshire: distant from Saffron Walden four, and from London forty-five miles.

Great
Chester-
ford.

The lands of this north-western extremity of the county are included in the chalk district, which extends beyond Walden in that direction; the general character, on the hills, a thin dry turnip soil, on chalk; in the vales a good loam, on gravel.† There were formerly very extensive uninclosed common lands here, but, in 1803, an act of parliament was passed for the inclosure of three thousand five hundred acres; and cottagers, who previously had cowgates on the commons, have now allotments of land which they cultivate to the best advantage.

Earl Edgar had the lands of Great Chesterford toward the close of the Saxon era; at the time of the survey they were among the possessions of the king, and afterwards this lordship became the property of the family of Mareschal, earls of Pembroke, and was made to belong to the marshalship of England. William le Mareschal married Isabel, daughter and sole heiress of Richard Strongbow, and was, in her right, created earl of Pembroke, in 1199: their five sons were William, Richard, Gilbert, Walter, and Anselm, who each in succession enjoyed the family honours, and the office of marshal of England, but all died without issue: Anselm, the last of them, died in 1245: there were also five daughters; Maud, married to Hugh Bigot, earl of Norfolk; Joan, to Warine de Montchensy, lord of Swanescamp; Isabel, to Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, and afterwards to Richard Plantagenet, earl of Cornwall; Sibyl, to William Ferrers, earl of Derby; and Eva, to William Brus, lord of Brecknock. In 1225, on the decease of Anselm le Mareschal, earl of Pembroke, his large estate

Mareschal
family.

It was formerly a market-town, described as a "great towne and populous, having in it to the number of five hundred houseling people, and more:" and being of the ancient demesne of the crown, enjoyed numerous important privileges on that account; these may be seen in the charter of king Charles the first, dated May the twenty-third, 1634, and preserved in the church chest. Of these privileges, the exemption from tolls at fairs, markets, bridges, &c. was of importance, when a great part of a lord's revenue was from this source; and the knights of the shires' wages were felt as an incumbrance of some weight, when they were paid by the country, and these were among the exemptions. The ancient tenure here is borough-English; the youngest son or daughter, uncle or other kinsman, claiming the inheritance of those who die intestate.

† Average annual produce—wheat 18, barley 22 bushels.

BOOK II.

was divided among his five sisters, his co-heiresses; and to Maud, the eldest, was apportioned eleven hundred and twenty pounds per annum, with the office and rod of marshal of England, into which she was invested in 1246. This lady, after the death of her first lord, was married to John de Warren, earl of Surrey. Her three sons, by Hugh Bigot, were Roger, Hugh, Ralph; she had also one daughter, and resigned the office to her eldest son, Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk,* in 1247, one year previous to her decease.—The earl married Isabel, daughter of William, king of Scotland, by his third queen, Ermengard de Beaumont, great grand-daughter of king Henry the second, but died in 1269, without issue. He held this manor of the honour of Strigul, to which also belonged the advowson of the church: Roger, the son of his brother Hugh, was his successor, who, though he had two wives, had no issue. He left all his estate to king Edward the first, to whom he also resigned his office of marshal, receiving in return, besides a sum of money to pay his debts, a pension for life:† he died in 1307, and, in 1312, king Edward the second conferred this manor, and afterwards the marshalship, on his brother, Thomas de Brotherton; who married first, Alice, daughter of sir Edward Hayls, of Harwich; and, secondly, Mary, daughter of William lord Roos, who survived him, but had no issue. By the lady Alice he had Margaret, first married to John de Segrave, and afterwards to sir Walter de Manny, knight of the garter: the lady Margaret, in 1398, was created duchess of Norfolk for life, but died in the following year, having survived her second husband, who died in 1372. By her first husband she had two daughters, Anne, abbess of Barking, and Elizabeth, married to John de Mowbray, of Axholm, to whom she conveyed this and other large estates. He was slain by the Turks, near Constantinople, in 1368, on his journey to the Holy Land; of his two sons, John and Thomas, John, the eldest, was created earl of Nottingham in 1377, at the coronation of king Richard the second; and, dying in 1382, in the eighteenth year of his age, was succeeded by his brother Thomas, created earl of Nottingham in 1382, and, in 1397, duke of Norfolk, and constituted earl marshal of England, being the first instance of the conjunction of these titles, the term, “grand, or lord marshal,” having been previously used. This nobleman being a party in the murder of the duke of Gloucester, on that account received great honours and

* It is recorded of this nobleman, that he joined with Humphrey Bohun, earl of Hereford, in the resolution of refusing to go to the war in Gascony, unless accompanied by the king; and that when urged by his majesty to go without him, he answered, “Sir, I am ready to attend your person in the front of the army, as I am bound by hereditary right.” To which the king answered, “But you shall go with others, without me.” The earl replied, “I am not so bound, neither shall I go without you;” the king swore, “By —, sir earl, you shall go, or hang;” but the earl, with the same oath, answered, “Sir king, I will neither go nor hang.” And so departed, without leave.

† He had one thousand pound's to pay his debts and for present use, and one thousand pounds per annum for life; and to have his office and estate returned, if he should have children.

riches from Richard the second: but for seditious or disloyal expressions, was banished for life, and died at Venice in 1400. By his first lady Elizabeth, daughter of John le Strange, of Blackmere, he had no offspring: but marrying, secondly, Elizabeth, sister and co-heiress of Thomas Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, widow of William, son of William Montacute, earl of Salisbury, he had Thomas, John, Margaret, and Isabel: after his decease, his lady was married to sir Robert Goushill, who dying, she was again married to Gerard Ufflet, and held this manor as part of her dower, till her decease in 1424. Her eldest son Thomas, earl marshal, married Constance, only daughter of John Holland, duke of Exeter, but had no children. He was beheaded in 1405, being accused of a conspiracy against king Henry the fourth. His brother John, in 1413, was restored to the earldom of Nottingham, with the office of earl marshal, and to the dukedom of Norfolk, in 1416: he died in 1432, leaving, by his lady Katharine, daughter of Ralph Neville, earl of Westmoreland, John, his son, the third duke of Norfolk; who, by his lady Eleanor, only daughter of William Bouchier, earl of Eu, had his son, John Mowbray, the last duke of Norfolk of this family, who died in 1477, leaving an only daughter, named Anne, on which this and his other estates went to his heirs-at-law, of the families of Howard and Berkley; as descendants of Margaret, married to sir Robert Howard, ancestor of the noble family of that name, and of Isabel,* who, married to James lord Berkley, had by him William and Maurice. On the partition of the Mowbray estates, this manor, with the title of earl marshal, was the portion of William lord Berkley, knighted in 1458, created, in 1481, viscount Berkley; in 1483, made earl of Nottingham, and, in 1485, constituted marshal of England, and also advanced to the title of marquis of Berkley. He was three times married, but had only two children, Thomas, and Catharine, who died in their infancy; and he consequently, in 1487, devised the castle and manor of Berkley, with several other manors, to king Henry the seventh;† by this arrangement his brother Maurice, who had (as has been supposed) incurred his displeasure, by marrying Isabel, daughter of Philip Mead, alderman of Bristol, (a person beneath his quality), was disinherited, and enjoyed none of the family honours, yet recovered a great part of the estate, including this of the Chesterfords.‡ The ancient manor-house was not far from the site of the present mill.§

Berkley
family.

* She had been first married to sir Henry Ferrers, of Groby, and had by him only one daughter, named Elizabeth.

† In return, the king authorised him to convey twenty-five of his other lordships to whom he pleased.

‡ See Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i.

§ This appears from the record. "Maud, lady marshalless of England, countess of Norfolk and Warren, gave forty shillings yearly, issuing out of her mill at Chesterford, just by her court there, to the nuns of St. George, at Thetford, to buy them clothes, half linen, half woollens"—*T. Madox's History of the Exchequer*, p. 33, from *Hil. Brev. Ric. ii. rot. xviii. 6.*

BOOK II.

In 1502, Maurice Berkley and his wife Isabel, gave this manor to the abbey of St. Peter, in Westminster, which grant was confirmed, in 1503, by king Henry the seventh, to John Islip, abbot, with leave to appropriate the rectory to himself and his successors, on which a vicarage was ordained. On the dissolution, it was granted, in 1540, by Henry the eighth, to lord chancellor Audley, whose only daughter Margaret, married to Thomas, duke of Norfolk, succeeded to this estate; and from her it has descended to the present owner, the marquis of Bristol.

Holdens.

There was formerly an old ruinous building called Holdens, which from family writings appears to have been in the possession of Thomas Lambert, whose only daughter and heiress, Anne, was married to John Baker, esq., servant to king Henry the eighth; of seven sons, John Baker, the second, had this estate: he married Jane daughter of Thomas Sherbrooke of Yorkshire, and left Jane his only daughter, his heiress, married to Robert Newport, of Chesterford, who on his decease left by her six daughters.

Church.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a spacious and lofty building of stone, with nave, north and south aisles, and chancel, the whole leaded, and in an excellent state of repair: a square tower contains six bells; above which there is an ornamental lantern.

Chantry.

On the south of the chancel there is a chapel, formerly "our lady's chantry," founded by William Holden and Katharine his wife; and endowed with farms, lands, and rents: he died in 1523.* There is a room on the northern side of the chancel, for a free-school, endowed with land, by William Hart, esq., and under the management of the master and fellows of Magdalene-college, Cambridge.

In 1719, the living of this church was augmented by the gift of 200*l.* from bishop Robinson, to which was added the same sum, from queen Anne's bounty.

* There is the following inscription in the chapel: "Pray for the souls of William Holden and Katheryn his wife, founders of our Ladies chauntre, which William decessed 2 Dec. 1523." On the grant of this chantry by Edward the sixth, the property belonging to it, and the state of the institution, are described as "lands and tenements put in feoffment by William Holden, to find a priest for ever to sing masse in the church of Chesterford, and help the cure; and one sir John Cust, clerk, of the age of fifty-eight years, and of good usage and conversation, and teacheth a grammar schoole, and hath to the nombre of twenty schollers and more, ys now incumbent thereof."

Also the following: "Here lieth the body of Susannah Richers, one of the daughters of sir John Payton, of Doddington, in the isle of Ely, knt., relict of sir John Richers, of Tring Hall, in Norfolk, esq., she died in 1706, in the 90th year of her age."

"Here lieth Mr. John Howard, seventh son of Thomas lord Howard, baron of Walden, and knight of the garter; he lived twelve days, and died the 24th day of May."

Charities: in 1459, the rev. Richard Hill, rector of this parish, gave an estate, value nineteen pounds per annum, the income to be distributed to the poor for ever, by the minister and twelve trustees. It is applied to supplying any poor farmer in the parish with the amount of any horse, cow or other animal he may have the misfortune to lose. Also, an annuity of twenty shillings was given to the poor out of an estate in this parish.

The village of Great Chesterford is, without doubt, the site of a Roman station. The Roman camp which might, some years ago, be completely traced, was of an oblong form, rounded at the corners. Stukeley, in his *Itinerarium Curiosum*, has given a plan of it, as it might be traced in 1722. The then Crown Inn was opposite the centre of the wall of the south-east end, and was separated from it by the road; and the south-west side reached along the brow of the bank that rose up from the side of the river Cam. The foundations of the walls, Stukeley says, "were very apparent, quite round, though level with the ground, including a space of about fifty acres." Great part of it served for a causeway to the road from Cambridge to London. "The rest," he continues, "is made use of by the countrymen for their carriages to and fro in the fields. The earth is still high on both sides of it. In one part they have been long digging it up for materials in building and mending the roads. There I measured its breadth twelve feet, and remarked its composition of rag-stone, flints, and Roman brick. In a little cottage hard by, the parlour is paved with the bricks. They are fourteen inches and a half long, and nine broad." At the north-west end, Stukeley observed the foundations of a temple very apparent. It being almost harvest time, "the poverty of the corn growing where the walls stood, defines it to such a nicety, that I was able to measure it with exactness enough. The dimensions of the cell or *naos* were fifteen feet in breadth, and forty in length; the *pronaos*, where the steps were, appeared at both ends, and the wall of the portico around, whereon stood the pillars."* He adds, that he had seen many Roman coins which were dug up "in the city or borough-field as they call it."

Many coins, both of the early and of the later emperors, have been found here,† but the most numerous are those of Caligula, Trajan, Constantine, and Constantius. There were also found a bronze bust, various fibulæ, with brass and gold utensils and instruments, as well as many urns and entire skeletons, "and a small urn also of red earth, containing several written scrolls of parchment, but dispersed before any account or explanation could be obtained. A stone trough, the only one of the kind perhaps in England, discovered here, and sometime used for water at a smith's forge, was in the hands of the late Dr. Gower, of Chelmsford, who supposed it to be a receptacle of ashes, of the kind called by Montfaucon and others, *Quietorium*. It is a half octagon, with a flat back, about three feet long, and about a foot or eighteen inches deep: in four compartments are reliefs of human figures down to the waists, in tolerable pre-

* "I remarked," he adds, "that the city was just a thousand Roman feet in breadth, and that the breadth to the length was as three to five, of the same proportion as they make their bricks. 'Tis posited obliquely to the cardinal points, its length from north-west to south east, whereby wholesomeness is so well provided for, according to the direction of Vitruvius."—*Stukeley, Itin. Cur.* p. 75.

† A pot, containing a large quantity of very fine coins, was found here in 1760.

BOOK II. **servation.** That in the middle, which seems older than the others, has nothing in its hands; that to the right holds a kind of patera, with a handle; one to the left, in a *paludamentum*, has a singular weapon, like a trident, with a bar across the top, "or perhaps a vexillum; the other, but half a figure, holds a spear."*

Cambor-
icum
Iciani.

Stukeley and Baxter thought that Great Chesterford was the Camboricum of Antoninus, but every circumstance that we know relating to Camboricum points so strongly to Cambridge as the site of that important station, that the supposition of its being at Chesterford must be abandoned. Horsley imagined it to be Iciani, which was, perhaps, the more probable conjecture, yet it does not seem to answer well to that station, which Reynolds has placed at Thetford, in Norfolk. It seems most probable, therefore, that the station at Chesterford is one of which the Roman name has not come down to us, with Cambridge, perhaps one of the important posts on the line of forts which stretched from this part through Cambridgeshire towards the fens.† A smaller camp, distinct from the great station, may be traced near the church, and several others have been noticed within a distance of a few miles.

In 1821, this parish contained seven hundred and fifty-five; and in 1831, eight hundred and seventy-three inhabitants.

LITTLE CHESTERFORD.

Little
Chester-
ford.

This small parish is separated from Littlebury by the river Grantá, and extends from Great Chesterford to Walden; in length it is a mile and a half, and in breadth a mile and a quarter: the village is small, and the houses of humble appearance, chiefly occupied by those who are engaged in agricultural labour.

In the time of Edward the confessor, this manor belonged to queen Edeva; and at the survey, was holden under Walter the deacon.

Manor.

The manor-house is pleasantly situated on the highest part of the parish, with an agreeable prospect. The estate belonged to Robert de Hastings, forming two of the ten knights' fees of his barony; his daughter and heiress Delicia, by marriage conveyed it to Godfrey de Louvain. In 1302, Thomas de Bret held this manor under Matthew de Lovain, by military service, as one knight's fee: and died here in 1345. Thomas Hasilden, esq. had this possession in 1409, whose family were seated here till Frances,

* *Gough's Additions to the Britannia*, vol. ii. p. 62.—Horsely has given a figure, wretchedly engraved, of this relic, in his *Britannia Romana*. He saw it in a mill at Chesterford.

† Speaking of Vandlebury, or the entrenchment on the Gogmagog hills, Gough observes,—“Vandlebury is the fourth of the chain of forts which begins at the large camp on the hill where the hunting tower stood, opposite to Audley End. Littlebury church stands in another. The walled town at Chesterford is a third. To Vandlebury succeeded Grantacester; then Arbury; and last, Belsars hills; all within sight of one another, reaching from the woodland of Essex to the fens, and crossed by several parallel ditches, quite to the Devil's ditch.”

only daughter and heiress of Francis Hasilden,* by marriage conveyed this estate to sir Robert Peyton, of Isleham, in Cambridgeshire. Sir Robert was at the siege of Boulogne with king Henry the eighth: with his lady Frances he had, besides this estate, those of Steeple and Gilden Morden, in Cambridgeshire; he died in 1550, his lady in 1580, and both were buried at Isleham: their children were Robert Peyton, esq. of Isleham, and William; and Richard, of this place, who married Margaret, daughter of sir Leonard Hyde, of Sandon, in Hertfordshire, who on sir Leonard's decease was married to John Carey lord Hunsdon. The Peyton family sold this manor to Thomas lord Audley, through whose posterity it descended to the marquis of Bristol.

Manhall, formerly a manor, and comprising seventy acres of woodland, is situated at the southern extremity of the parish. In the time of Edward the confessor, the lands which bore the name of Manhall were in the possession of Siward, and of a freeman whose name does not appear; at the survey, this estate belonged partly to Alan, earl of Bretagne, and partly to Geoffrey de Maudeville: it was afterwards given to the abbey of St. Edmundsbury, by Stephen; and in 1257 it passed, in exchange for other lands, from Symond, abbot of St. Edmundsbury, to Richard, earl of Gloucester, who, in 1259, obtained leave to build a castle here. William de Montchensy, on his decease, held this manor of the earl by the service of half a knight's fee, and the yearly payment of twenty-four shillings to the bishop of Ely; two shillings to William Putyne; two shillings to the abbot of Walden; eight pence to Simon Voygard; and to the heirs of William de Butiler a pound of pepper: from the Montchensy family it passed to that of Bouchier; and by marriage, to sir William Parr, baron of Kendal, created earl of Essex and marquis of Northampton, who, in 1545, conveyed it to lord Audley, from whom it has descended to the marquis of Bristol, with the farm called Little Chesterford Park, as well as the advowsons of Great and Little Chesterford, which livings were consolidated some time ago: the former is a vicarage, the latter a rectory. In both parishes, the great and small tithes were commuted for land under the Act of Enclosure. The hon. and rev. Richard Fitzgerald King is the present incumbent, having been nominated by the crown, upon the vacancy occasioned by the elevation of archdeacon Blomfield to the see of Chester.

Manhall.

Little
Chester-
ford Park.

* Arms of Hasilden: Argent, a cross florie, sable. This family was originally of Cambridgeshire: Richard, the son of Thomas Hasilden, had by his wife Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Stephen Tuberville, his son and heir John, who marrying the daughter and heiress of Henry Hampton, esq. of Hertfordshire, had by her, besides other children, John, her heir, in 1452, high sheriff of the counties of Huntingdon and Cambridge; and who held the manor of Little Chesterford of the duke of York, as of his honour of Clare. He married Elizabeth, sister of John lord Tiptoft, daughter and heiress of * * * * Denny, by whom he had several children, of whom Katharine was married to James Dockwra: John, his son and heir, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of sir John Cheney, had Frances his daughter and heiress.

BOOK II.

Church.

The church is a small ancient building, dedicated to St. Mary; it is entered by the north porch under a Gothic arch, ornamented with sculptured heads; many of the windows are single lancet-shaped, one of which is at the west end; some of those on the north and south are Gothic, of later origin. The chancel is entered under a heavy wooden screen. An ancient tomb of fine marble in the chancel bears the effigy of the person it commemorates, in a recumbent posture, his right arm upon a cushion; and in his hand a veil, partly shading a death's head, with various appropriate ornaments, well executed: above these, the family arms are inclosed in a pediment, and under them is the following inscription:—

Monument.

“Here lies the body of James Walsingham, esq., who was son of Thomas Walsingham, esq., late of Scadbury, in the county of Kent, (by the lady Anne Howard, daughter of Theophilus, earl of Suffolk), he was lineally descended from sir Richard Walsingham, knt., who lived in the reign of king Henry the III. He died October the * * * * atatis suæ 82. This monument was erected by his sister, the lady Elizabeth Osborne.”*

In 1821, this parish contained one hundred and ninety-two, and in 1831 two hundred and eleven inhabitants.†

WIMBISH, WITH THUNDERSLEY.

Wimbish.

The two parishes of Wimbish and Thundersley were united in the year 1425, when the latter was made a hamlet to the former: by their union a large parish is formed, in circumference about sixteen miles; extending from Walden south-westward and eastward to Radwinter: in proportion to its extent it contains few inhabitants, and those chiefly agriculturists. The soil, a deep and heavy loam, on clay, requires the crop and fallow mode of cultivation.‡ The hedge-rows toward Walden contain timber of a larger growth than those toward Hadstock and Ashdon.§ The name of Wimbish, formerly written Gwimbich, is supposed to be derived from the

* A very ancient tomb, raised on a foundation of flints, to the height of two feet, had a Latin inscription on a brass plate, which has been taken away; it was to inform posterity that “George Langham, esq., formerly lord of this village, died on the 13th of September, 1462, and is here buried with his wife Isabel.”

There are the broken remains of many other ancient monuments, and a Latin inscription is tolerably perfect, which informs us that William Hasilden, esq. formerly lord of this manor, died 23d April, 1480, and lies here with his wife, who died 20th of February, 1476.

† Charity.—Land of the annual rent of three guineas was left for the benefit of the poor of this parish, to be distributed at the discretion of the trustees.

‡ Annual average produce per acre—wheat 20, barley 26 bushels.

§ Mr. Young mentions an oak at Wimbish, belonging to Allen Taylor, esq., which had been named Young's oak; in 1792, at five feet from the ground, it measured eight feet five inches and three quarters in girth: also a larch, only twelve years old, at the same height, measured two feet four inches. In 1805, the oak was eight feet ten inches; the larch, five feet one inch: the oak having in thirteen years increased four inches and a half: the larch, two feet nine inches!

Saxon *Erpin*, beautiful, and *bach*, a wood, and the whole country having been undoubtedly covered with wood, adds to the probability of this conjecture.

CHAP.
VII.

From Saffron Walden it is distant three, and from London forty-five miles.

The parish or lordship of Wimbish is believed to have been given to Christ Church, in Canterbury, by Thurstan, in the time of Edward the confessor, and which in the record is named Winebisc.* It did not long remain in the possession of this church, for in the Confessor's reign it had been conveyed to Ailid, and at the survey belonged to Ralph Baignard. In Domesday-book it is entered under Dunnow hundred, and Thundersley under that of Uttlesford. There are three manors in Wimbish, as there are also in Thundersley.

Wimbish Hall is near the church; and the manor was originally part of the barony of William, the son of Ralph Baynard, which he forfeited to the crown by attaching himself to the party of Robert Courthose, in opposition to Henry the first; and that monarch afterwards gave it to Richard Fitz-Gilbert, the ancestor of the earls of Clare. The immediate descendants of Robert were the Fitz-Walters, lords of Woodham Walter; and by an heiress of that noble family it was conveyed, by marriage, to Thomas Ratcliffe, esq. whose grandson, Robert Ratcliffe, lord Fitz-Walter, was created viscount Fitz-Walter, and earl of Sussex: and the estate continued in the possession of these noble families, till Robert,† the last earl of Sussex of the Ratcliffe line, who died in 1629, sold it to Allan Currants, esq., citizen and merchant-tailor of London, from whose family it was purchased by Matthew Wymondsel, esq. of Wansted; who bequeathed it to his son, Charles Wymondsel, esq., and in 1775 sold this and other estates in the neighbourhood to Allen Taylor, esq., who was possessed of it at his death in 1830, and bequeathed it to his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Taylor, who dying in 1833, it is now the property of her brother, Thomas Walford, esq. of Birdbrook.

Wimbish
Hall.

The mansion belonging to the manor of Tiptotes,‡ is near Sewor's End,§ about two miles north-west from the church, and derives its name from the ancient and honourable* family of Tiptotes, or Tiptofts, some of whom became barons of the realm, and earls of Worcester. In 1331, John de Wanton was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire; and lord of this manor at his decease in 1347; John, his son and heir, by his wife Margaret, left Margaret, and Elizabeth his co-

Tiptotes.

* This grant, recorded by W. Thorn among the evidences of the church of Canterbury, is also given by the learned T. Maddox in his *Formulare Anglicanum*, p. 238. It is witnessed by king Edward the confessor, and lady Ælgyva, the two archbishops, Eadsige and Ælfrie, earl Godwin, earl Leofric, Elgar the earl's son, Ælward bishop of London, Alwin bishop of Winchester, . . . Leofcild Scire, prepositus or sheriff; and Osulf Fila, and Ufric and Ælwin, son of Wulfred, and Ælfrie son of Withgar, and all the theigns of Essex.

† John Fitz-Walter, at the time of his decease, in 1361, held this manor, of the king, as parcel of the barony of Fitz-Walter.—*Inq.* 35, *Ed.* III.

‡ Also named Wantons and Pinkeneys, from subsequent possessors.

§ Formerly Siward's End.

BOOK II.

heirs;* of whom Margaret had this estate for her portion, and being married to — Harleston, left by him her son Ivo de Harleston. He held this manor of Edward duke of York: John, his son, was his successor; who married Elizabeth, daughter of William Clopton, by whom he had his son John, who on his decease left Alice, and Margaret, co-heirs, by his wife Margaret, daughter and co-heir of William Bardwell. Alice, married to sir Richard Fitz-Lewis, conveyed to him this estate; and Margaret was married to Thomas Darcy, esq. of Danbury.†

Sir John Fitz-Lewis, by his lady Alice, left one daughter, his heiress, in the pedigree called Elizabeth; in the *post mortem inquisition*, Ela; and in Dugdale, Ellen. This lady was married to sir John Mordaunt, son and heir of John, lord Mordaunt, whom he succeeded in honours and estates in 1562: this nobleman by will, dated in 1571, left this manor to King's Hall and Brazen-nose college, Oxford, for the maintenance of three scholars, to be nominated by his executors and afterwards by his heirs for ever; and for other charitable purposes.‡

Bradokes.

The old mansion-house of Bradokes, or Broadoaks, stands in the fields two miles from the church. The account of the possessors of this estate cannot be traced back farther than the reign of Henry the eighth, when it was in possession of the Mordaunt family; and was conveyed, in 1551, by Edmund Mordaunt, to John Wiseman, esq. of Felsted; from whose family it passed by marriage to Mr. Richard Clagett, of London;§ and on the decease of Wiseman Clagett, esq. of Barnard's Inn, who died in 1741, this manor with appurtenances, was purchased of his executors, in chancery, by the right honourable Charles, lord Maynard.

Thundersley.

Thundersley, formerly a parish, had a church near the hall, but both the church and church-yard have disappeared. The lands of this parish belonged to Ailmer, in the time of Edward the confessor; and at the survey became the property of Alberic de Vere, whose under-tenant Ralf, from this place took the surname of De Tunderley. There are three manors.

Thunderley-hall manor appears to have been in the joint possession of Geoffrey de Thunderley, and Alexander Rivollam, of this place, in the time of king Henry the second; it being on record that a moiety of the church was given to Hatfield priory

* Arms of Wanton: Argent, a chevron sable.

† Arms of Harleston: Argent, a fesse ermine between two bars gemelles, sable. Crest: On a helmet, mantled gules, doubled argent, out of a crown or, a stag's head ermines, attired or, browsing a hawthorn, proper, with berries or.

‡ Dugdale's Baron. vol. ii. p. 312, and Wood's Hist. and Antiquit. of the University of Oxford, lib. ii. p. 214.

§ Thomas, the son of John Wiseman, succeeded his father in this estate, and had William; Thomas, who died without issue; John; Robert; and two daughters, nuns. William, the eldest son and heir, received the honour of knighthood, and by his lady, Jane, daughter of sir Edmund Huddleston, knt., had John, Dorothea, and Winifred. Sir John, who next succeeded, had his son Aurelius Percy Wiseman, who was killed in a duel in London in 1684; he died unmarried, and his two sisters were Lucy and Elizabeth.

by Geoffrey de Thunderley, and that afterwards the remaining moiety was given to the same monastery by Alexander Rivollam, for the remission of all his sins, and those of his dear wife, and all his friends. This last grant was in 1143. It is hence concluded that the church was at that time appendant to the manor, which was in possession of the said proprietors.* In 1485, a moiety of this manor belonged to John Brett, in right of his wife Maud; and from that period till the year 1624, when the manor, with the advowson of the church, belonged to Robert Wiseman, esq. there appears to be no record. The son of Robert, was sir Richard Wiseman, bart. in 1628; and the Wiseman family of Torrel's Hall had this possession.

The reputed manor of Dales or Caldecots was a considerable time holden under the earls of Oxford, by the Thunderley family, till it passed to that of Att-Dale, in 1346, by the marriage of the daughter of Andrew de Thunderley to William Att-Dale. In 1445, it was in the possession of Nicholas Caldecot, or Calcot; and of sir James Caldecot in 1485; who, in 1498, did homage for this possession at Castle Hedingham: he died in 1502, and Thomas, his son, is supposed to have died without issue, for the next recorded owner is his sister, Muriel Caldecot,† the second wife of Robert Mordaunt,‡ of Turvey, in Bedfordshire, to whom she brought this estate; in whose family it continued, till it was purchased of John Mordaunt, esq. in 1652, by Dr. Bromfield, who gave it to the poor of St. Andrew's, Holborn, London.

Dales, or
Caldecots.

The manor of Abbots belonged to Walden abbey; the mansion-house is about two miles west from the church. Having passed to the crown, it was granted, in 1538, by king Henry the eighth, to Thomas lord Audley, whose grandson, Thomas lord Howard, of Walden, sold it to Richard Martin, junior, and John Haile. The next possessor of it, upon record, was sir Robert Quarles, of Romford, kn. from whose son it descended to William Holgate, of Walden, who died in 1672, and his daughter Anne conveyed it to her husband, James Monteith, gent. of Greenwich, of an ancient family of that name in Scotland: he died in 1681, his wife in 1685, and they are both buried in the chancel of the church of Saffron Walden. His son, James Monteith, sold this estate to Richard Derbyshire, esq. of the six clerks' office in chancery; from whom it passed, in marriage with his niece, to John Birkhead, esq. of the same office.

Abbots.

* From the original grants at Colne priory, formerly in the possession of Richard Androwes, esq. and in the Evidence-house of the Barrington family, adjoining to Hatfield church.

† Arms of Caldecott: Gules, on a chevron argent, three dolphins haurient sable.

‡ William, the son and heir of Robert Mordaunt, married Anne, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Huntington, by whom he had four sons and six daughters, and left this estate to George Mordaunt, his fourth son, who, having no issue, gave it to his next brother, Edmund, who was succeeded by Henry Mordaunt, his eldest son, whose eldest son of the same name was his successor, and living in 1620, who married Barbara, daughter of Henry Bradbury, esq. of Littlebury, by whom he had, besides other children, his eldest son Henry, who married Lettice, daughter of John Holgate, esq. of Walden, by whom he had his son John, the last of the family who had this estate.

BOOK II.

Church.

The church of Wimbish, dedicated to All Saints, is an ancient building of stone, with a nave, north aisle and chancel. In 1740, the tower and part of this church, decayed by age, fell to the ground, and a new tower of brick has been erected, which, with the other repairs, was finished in 1755. The tower contains three bells.

Inscriptions.

The following inscription is on a wooden tablet against the north wall of the chancel:

“Deo uni trino sit Gloria.
Mrs. Mary Wiseman now with God,
Mi Jesu rais me anu } her anagram.
Maria Wiseman }
Here pious eyes may justly weep
For her that's underneath asleep,
Could we believe one surely blest
Might in her tomb remain a guest.
But to her very ashes I
Must pay a devout obsequie;
Justice and passion both incline
Me to adore her very shrine.

That by this venting of my grief,
My troubled soul may find relief;
All that to virtue will be just,
With me must reverence her dust;
Beauteous before it was calcin'd,
But oh! the beauty of her mind!
Though I her absence chiefly find,
The loss is unto all mankind,
Who fitly may with me bemoane
The loss of such perfectione;
She to her sex a pattern stood
Of all that's imitably good.”

“Here lies interred the body of Mrs. Mary Wiseman, who bore to her husband two daughters and one son, (of whom she died in child-bed); she departed this life on Thursday, the twenty-second of June, 1654, in the flower of her age, having been married four years, seven months, and four days.”

“So Phœnixes expire to be
Renewed in their posteritie;

|| And Pelicans their own lives give,
To make their tender offspring live.”

“She was of an honourable extract, being daughter to sir Rowland Rydgeley, of Dunton, of the ancient family of that name and place, in Warwickshire. Her mother, the lady Lettice Rydgeley, being one of the daughters and co-heirs of sir Thomas Knowlys, and the lady Odela, his wife, who was one of the daughters and co-heirs of the lord Meroda, marquess of Bergen, in the Low Countries. Sir Thomas Knowlys, knight of the garter, treasurer of the household, and privy counsellor to queen Elizabeth; he was brother of the late earl of Banbury, and the lady Lettice, countess of Leicester, the earls of Essex and Holland, and the earls of Northumberland and Warwick, being their nephews and her cousin Germans. Sir Francis Knowlys, aforesaid, married the lady Katharine Carey, sister to Henry lord Hunsdon, privy counsellor, knight of the garter, and chamberlain to queen Elizabeth, to whom they were cousin Germans. Their mother was daughter to Thomas Bullein, earl of Wiltshire, and sister to queen Anne Bullein, who was the wife of Henry the eighth, king of England. The marquis of Bergen was of the house of Nassau, and uncle to the late prince of Orange.”

There are also the following inscriptions in the chancel belonging to the same family:

“Ipsa Johan Wiseman repetito nomine Strangeman,
Quod sibi conjugii posuerunt jura secundi,
Uxor erat binis, his tristia funera vidit;

|| Tertio temporei perfecit munera lecti;
Anni plus decies sextum volvuntur in orbe,
Qui sibi nascenti gratas, traxere tenebras.”

English:

“Johanna Wiseman, by her second name Strangeman, a name which the laws of a second marriage conferred on her, was twice a wife, and buried twice her husband: she a third time performed the offices of the bed, and died herself, being more than sixty years of age.”



THE GREAT HALL

1871

Upon a stone on the ground:

"Here rest the sad remains of Aurelius Piercy Wiseman, of Broad-Oaks, in this parish, esq. the last of the name of that place, and head and chief of that right worshipful and ancient family, who was unfortunately killed in the flower of his age, Dec. 11, 1680."

The rev. John Raymond, the present incumbent, is patron of the vicarage.

In 1821, these consolidated parishes contained eight hundred and nine, and, in 1831, nine hundred and twenty-one inhabitants.

DEBDEN.

Debden extends westward to Newport, and southward to Widdington; it is bounded eastward by Wimbish, and by Walden on the north: its computed breadth is about three miles, and its length four. Debden.

The lands of this parish are diversified in appearance by an intermixture of valleys, with hills of considerable height; the soil generally arable, with a considerable portion of woodland.† The name in records is Depden, Deepden, Deopden, Depdon, Dependon, Dependana, Diependin; supposed from the Saxon *deop*, deep, and *den*, a valley. The village is small, and pleasantly situated on an eminence: distant from Saffron Walden two, and from London forty-one miles.

Siward was the proprietor of these lands in the time of Edward the confessor, and they belonged to Ralph Peverel at the survey: the whole was ultimately divided into six manors.

William, son of William, son of Ralph Peverel, succeeding to this estate, lost it, with all his other possessions, and was compelled to fly from the country for the atrocious crime of poisoning Ralph, earl of Chester. Henry the second afterwards gave it to his son John, earl of Mortain, who, succeeding to the English crown, conferred this estate on Geoffrey Fitz-Piers, earl of Essex, whose daughter Maud conveyed it, by marriage, to Henry de Bohun, earl of Hereford, and high constable of England; and who, in her right, became earl of Essex. His successors were his son Humphrey, his grandson of the same name, who died in 1298, and his great grandson, Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, who died in 1372, having married Joan, daughter of Richard, earl of Arundel, by whom he left two co-heirs; Eleanor, married to Thomas, of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, sixth son of king Edward the third; and Mary, married to Henry, earl of Debden Hall.

* Charitable gifts—Sir Ralph Wiseman, of Rivenhall, gave an annuity of four pounds to the poor of Wimbish, out of the manor of Broadokes: and Dr. Wivel, of Walden, gave three pounds a year, payable out of a farm called Will's Abbey, in Walden, for six sermons, to be preached in Lent, in Thundersley church, which being demolished, they were, by a decree in chancery, ordered to be preached at Wimbish.

† In the Domesday record it is stated, that there were here at that time two arpeni (acres) of vineyard that bore, and two that did not bear.

BOOK II. Derby, afterwards king Henry the fourth. The lady Eleanor had one son and four daughters, of whom Anne, the eldest, became ultimately the sole heiress of her mother, succeeding to a partition of the Bohun estates with the other co-heir, who was king Henry the fifth. Hence this manor becoming vested in the crown, as belonging to the dutchy of Lancaster, was part of the jointure of the queens of Henry the fifth, Henry the sixth, and Edward the fourth: it was conveyed, by a grant from Henry the eighth, to Thomas lord Audley, from whose only daughter and heir Margaret, it descended to her son, Thomas, baron Howard de Walden and earl of Suffolk; in whose family it continued till 1660, when it was sold by James, earl of Suffolk, to Thomas Grove, esq., who sold it to sir Richard Browne, kn. and bart.; he died in 1672, and was succeeded by his son sir Richard, who married Frances, sister of sir Robert Atkins, chief baron of the exchequer. They both died within three days of each other, in 1685, sir Richard having previously, in 1630, sold this estate to John Edwards, esq. whose son and heir Henry, one of the masters in chancery, sold it, with the manor of Deynes, to Richard Chiswell, esq. in 1715.* He was the son of Richard Chiswell, citizen and stationer of London;† and his grandson, Richard Mulman Trench Chiswell, erected the mansion, and in the improvements of this beautiful seat left a monument of his judgment and good taste. Mr. Holland was the architect employed. The house is placed on a rising ground above a fine sheet of water formed under Mr. Chiswell's directions; and the south-eastern front, built in the Grecian style, and ornamented with stately pillars, has a good effect. The whole of this extensive inclosure is agreeably diversified, and from shady walks on the higher grounds, fine views are presented over the surrounding country. Mr. Chiswell married Mary, daughter of James Jurin, M.D. by whom he left an only

* Richard Chiswell, the father of the purchaser of Debden Hall, was born in 1639, in the parish of St. Botolph's, Aldersgate, London; and, on his decease in 1711, was buried there; his first wife, Sarah, was daughter of Mr. John King; his second wife was Mary, daughter of Richard Royston, esq. bookseller to king Charles the first and second: his surviving children by his second wife were, John who died in India, Richard, and Royston: the former was an eminent merchant, elected member of parliament for Calne, in Wiltshire, in 1714, died in 1751, and was interred in this church. He married Mary, daughter and co-heiress of Mr. Thomas Trench, merchant, of London: she died in 1712, having borne ten children, of whom William and Trench died at Constantinople; and two daughters, and Richard, one of the sons, survived their father. Arms of Chiswell: Argent, two bars nebule, gules: over all a bend engrailed, sable, thereon a rose between two mullets, or.

† He was the most considerable and esteemed bookseller and publisher of the age in which he lived; the eccentric John Dunton speaks of him as the most eminent of that business in the three kingdoms. "Mr. Richard Chiswell (he observes) well deserves the title of Metropolitan Bookseller of England, if not of all the world. His name at the bottom of a title-page does sufficiently recommend the book. He has not been known to print either a bad book, or on bad paper. He is admirably well qualified for his business, and knows how to value a copy according to its worth; witness the purchase he has made of archbishop Tillotson's octavo sermons."—*John Dunton's Life and Errors*, p. 230. In the original charter of the Bank of England, Mr. Chiswell was appointed one of the first directors.

daughter and heiress, Mary; married, in 1779, to sir Francis Vincent, bart. to whom she conveyed this estate; and by her, who died in 1826, he had sir Francis Vincent, the ninth baronet; and Anna Maria, married, in 1817, to captain William Johnson Campbell, son of the late lieutenant-general Colin Campbell. Sir Francis died in 1791, and was succeeded by his son sir Francis, the ninth baronet, born in 1780; who married, in 1802, Jane, daughter of the rev. — Bouverie, brother of William, first earl of Radnor, and by her (who died in 1805) had Francis, cornet in the ninth Light Dragoons, and a daughter named Ellen. Sir Francis, the tenth and present baronet, succeeded his father in 1808, and, in 1824, married Augusta Elizabeth, only child of the hon. Charles Herbert, R.N. second son of the first earl of Caernarvon.*

The manor of Deynes belonged formerly to Tiltey abbey, and, till the suppression of that house, was held under it by a family named Wright. The mansion-house is about half a mile from the church, and called Deynes House, and Debden Grange;† in 1538, it was granted to Charles Brandon, duke of Somerset, from whom passing successively to several proprietors, it became the property of Mr. Chiswell, in 1715. Deynes.

The manor-house of the estate named Tendring is on the north of the road to Thaxted, eastward from the church: it was in possession of Roger Tewe in 1483, and successively belonging to several proprietors, passed to John Wiseman, esq. of Felsted, in 1526, and to his son, sir Thomas: to Thomas Knightingale, esq. in 1623, to his son of the same name in 1635; to Robert Woolley; Henry Lewes in 1679; and, in 1696, having become the property of Adam Newman, esq. was by him sold to the proprietor of Debden Hall. Tendring.

Contiguous to Tendring is the manor of Weldbarnes, having a mansion on the same side of the road; it formerly belonged to the noble family of Grey, of Wilton, and was in possession of John de Grey at the time of his decease in 1323, holden of Eleanor de Verdun by the service of a rose. Successive proprietors were Henry, the son of John de Grey, in 1342, whose heir was his son Reginald: sir Henry de Grey, of Wilton, in 1395, whose son and successor, sir Reginald, died in 1441, leaving Reginald, his son, his heir. In 1501, lord Grey, of Wilton, conveyed this possession to John Mordaunt, from whom it passed to several individuals of the family, and was sold by Edmund Mordaunt, in 1551, to John Wiseman, esq. from whose family it was conveyed, in marriage by a female heiress, to sir John Marshall, descending to his son of the same name and title, and to his grandchildren. Weld-barnes.

The mansion-house of Mole Hall is about half a mile from the church southward. Mole Hall

* Arms of Vincent: Azure, three quatrefoils, argent. Crest: out of a coronet, proper, a bear's head argent. Motto, "Vincenti dabitur." "It is given to the conqueror."

† In the patent it is styled "Manerium, dominum sive Grangia, sive firma vocat Dynes, alias Dynes house, ex antiquo vocat Depden Grange cum pertinen' spectantibus Monasterio de Tiltey."—3 *Parl. Pat.* 8 *Elizab.*

BOOK II. In 1510², this manor belonged to sir William Walegrave, from whose family it was conveyed to John Rowley, esq., of Berkway, high sheriff of Hertfordshire, in 1650; from whose family it passed by marriage to William Levinz, of Grove, in Nottinghamshire, who sold it to William Blackmore, esq.

Amber-
don Hall.

The mansion-house of the manor of Amberdon Hall is two miles south-eastward from the church, on ground rising high, and commanding extensive prospects over the country, with woodland scenery in its vicinity. In records the name is Amberdana, Ambredon, Ambyrden, Amerdene, Amerton, apparently formed from the Saxon words Ambep, a wine or water vessel or a barrel, and don, a hill: sometimes it is called Flambards, from ancient owners of that name. Formerly there was a church or chapel here; the site of fish-ponds may be traced, and the house has evidently been much larger than at present; there are also other evidences of its having been a hamlet of itself, distinct from Debden. In the survey it is styled a villa, and by the Confessor's charter of confirmation, it appears to have anciently formed part of the possessions of the abbey of Ely: it afterwards went with Debden Hall, to Siward, and at the survey belonged to Ralph Peverel; afterwards John Fitz-Lambert, and Robert de Mortimer, successively held it of the crown, as of the honour of Peverel. In 1285, it was so holden by Robert de Mortimer; and passed, by female heirship, to Geofrey de Cornwall, who held it at the time of his decease in 1365. The families of Berners* and Fynderne succeeded; and, in 1515, sir William Fynderne entailed this estate on his heirs male; and in want of such, on sir John Cutt, of Horeham Hall, in Thaxted; to whom it ultimately descended, and who, on his decease in 1554, left a son, named John, eleven years of age. The estate was afterwards in the possession of Edward West, esq., who about the close of the reign of queen Elizabeth, sold it to sir Thomas Dacre, knt., whose son Thomas sold it to sir James Stonehouse, son of George Stonehouse, esq., of Little Peckham, in Kent: from this family it passed to Thomas Selater Bacon, esq., of Linton, in Cambridgeshire, who left it by will to Robert King, esq., who died in 1749. A family of note took their surname from this place; and there are coats of arms in various parts of the hall.

Church.

The village church, dedicated to All Saints, is a handsome Gothic building within

* Hugh de Berners held lands at Eversden, in Cambridgeshire, in 1086, and Ralph, son of Hugh, by marrying Nesta, the sister and heiress of Pain Burnel, became possessed of his great estate. The fifth in descent from Hugh, was sir Ralph Berners, great grandfather to Nicholas Berners, possessed of this estate in the time of king Henry the sixth: he was the son of John Berners, son of John, third son of Ralph, by Christian his wife, daughter and heiress of Hugh de Wyndesore, esq. of West Horsley, in Surrey. He lived at Amberdon Hall, having married Margaret, daughter and co-heiress of John Swynborne, esq., by whom he had his only daughter and heiress Catharine, married to sir William Fynderne. This appears from an epitaph formerly in the church, preserved by Weever, "Here lieth buried Nicolas Barners, with his wife Margaret, one of the daughters and co-heirs of John Swindon, esq. (more correctly Swynborn,) who died 1441." The head of this family resided at Little Horksley during several generations.

the park, and shaded by a fine grove of trees. It was originally built in the cathedral form, with two aisles, a nave, and chancel, and the tower in the centre; this being decayed, fell down, and demolished the chancel, which has been re-edified, and the ancient style of the architecture well preserved, with elegant and appropriate ornaments. A very elegant font, in Coad's artificial stone-work, was the gift of R. M. T. Chiswell, esq.* At the east end, a chapel contains monuments of the Chiswells.†

In 1821, this parish contained nine hundred and forty, and in 1831, nine hundred and eighty-five inhabitants.

* On the northern wall of the chancel, a monument bears the following inscription:—

“Binos abhinc passus meridiem versus, reconditum est quod mortale fuit Thomæ Carter, S. T. P. et hujus ecclesiæ annos XLV Rectoris dignissimi: qui, post diutini ministerii vices, piè, prudenter, et fideliter, impletas: post insigne probitatis, beneficentiæ et humanitatis edilum in omni vitâ documentum: post irruptum annorum circiter XLV, nec malis divulgum queri moniis conjugium: post extremam ferè humani curriculi metam feliciter et alacri animo assecutam prole auctus, famâ cohonestatus, omnibus charus, dierum Satur. Tandem 8vo. id. Octob. A. D. 1697, Cælum petiit An. nat. 74, multis ille bonis flebilis occidit. Tumulo accesserunt postea (viz.) 9 kalend Octob. A. D. 1698, Annæ Uxoris ejus reliquiæ, vita comitis fidissimæ nec ipsâ morte, nisi brevi et ægre sejungendæ Anno nat. 75, mœrens posuit filius nat. max. T. C.”

“Two paces from hence toward the south is deposited what was mortal of Thomas Carter, professor of theology, and the very worthy rector of this church forty-five years; who, after having discharged the duties of his long ministry piously, prudently, and faithfully; after having been a singular example of probity, beneficence, and humanity, in every part of his life; after having lived in the strictest harmony with his wife about 44 years; after having happily and cheerfully attained almost to the utmost period of human life, blessed with offspring, honoured with reputation, dear to all men, full of days, at length, on the eighth of October, in the year of our Lord 1697, took his flight to heaven, aged 74 years. He died lamented by many good men. To his tomb were afterwards added, on the twenty-third of September, in the year of our Lord, 1698, the remains of Anna, his wife, during his life, a most faithful companion to him, nor by his death separated from him, but for a short time, and not without difficulty, aged 75 years. Their eldest and afflicted son, T. C. caused this to be erected.”

There are also inscriptions to the memory of Richard Chiswell, esq., who died in 1751, aged 78: and also of Mary his wife, who died in 1726, aged 43. Also, here lie the remains of Mr. Dudley Foley, who died in 1747, and of Elizabeth his wife, who died in 1742. Their two children, a son aged 14, and a daughter aged 16, lie buried at Cheam, in Surrey. There are also buried here, Richard Chiswell, esq., who died in 1751, and Mary his wife, ob. 1726. Sir Richard Brown, knt. and bart. was buried here in 1672; and also his son sir Richard with his lady, Frances, sister to sir Robert Atkins, baron of the exchequer: they both died in 1685, within three days of each other.

† Charitable gifts. Serjeant Bendloes gave twenty shillings yearly for ever, to three poor people, to buy fire-wood or clothing, or to repair the poor-house.—An unendowed almshouse for four dwellers was given by sir John Stonehouse.—In 1644, John Measont, of Henham, gave a house and five acres of land in this parish: one third part of the yearly income for the use of the poor of Debden; the like third part to the poor of Henham, and the remaining third part he reserved to himself during life.—An annuity of four pounds was left by Dr. Thomas Carter, rector of this parish, of which ten shillings is to be paid for a sermon on the twenty-ninth of May, and the remainder to be expended in woollen cloth, for clothing four poor men who keep their church, three of Debden, one of Bartlow.

BOOK II.

WIDDINGTON, OR WIDINGTON.

Widdington.

The parish of Widdington, from the extremity of the hundred of Uttlesford, where it joins Freshwell, extends westward to Rickling, Newport, and Quendon; and from Debden southward to Henham: it is in length five miles, and one and a half broad; from Newport and Quendon it is separated by a small rivulet, over which there is a good bridge of brick, kept in repair by this parish and Newport: it was erected at the expense of Richard Chiswell, esq.

The Saxon name of this parish is compounded of *Wid*, *ing*, *tun*, a town by the wide meadow or pasture lands; variously written in records, *Wichington*, *Widintun*, *Wedington*, *Wedyton*, *Widiton*, *Wyddington*, and *Wodeton*, from which last some have concluded the Saxon name to have been *þoðington*, the town among woods.

The village is small and of ancient appearance, the inhabitants dependant on agricultural employment. Distant from Saffron Walden four, and from London thirty-nine miles.

In the time of the Saxons, the two manors of this parish belonged to Ingulph and Turchil; at the survey, Robert Gernon held Widdington Hall, and Priors Hall belonged to the monastery of St. Valery, in Picardy.

Widdington Hall.

Widdington Hall manor-house is an ancient building, a short distance from the church south-eastward: formerly it had a chapel, now converted into a parlour, the massive walls of which were three feet in thickness: after remaining several generations in the family of Robert Gernon, the first Norman proprietor, this manor was conveyed by the marriage of heiresses to the families of Playz; Howard and De Vere; under the last of whom it was holden by a family surnamed Lenvois, Le Vasey, or Veyse, from whom it was at one period named Basey. In the reign of king Henry the second, Robert Lenvoise had this possession, and another, supposed of the same family, had succeeded in 1327, whose name is written Robert le Veyse, and in the registry of the diocese, Lennesey. He was succeeded by Gilbert Lenvois, who was lord of Widdington, in 1361: he is also named Veysy, in the inquisitions. His heiresses were Katharine and Maud: of these, the first, married to John Duke, esq., master of the pantry to king Edward the third, conveyed to him this estate, which his son of the same name had possession of in 1393: John Green, esq., married his daughter and heiress Agnes; he presented to the living the last time in 1466,* and was buried with his wife in the chancel. In 1516, sir Thomas Fynderne, of Amberdon Hall, in Debden, died holding this possession, and was succeeded by his grandson, Thomas Fynderne,

* Arms of Green: Gules, a lion rampant double queued, parted per fesse, argent and or.

esq. whose cousin and next heir was Anne, married to sir Roger Wentworth, of Codham Hall: succeeded by sir Thomas Seymour; after whom the next possessor was Edward Elrington, esq., of the ancient family of that name, of Theydon Bois; whose successor, on his decease, in 1558, was his son Edward, followed by Edward Elrington, his son, in 1578, and by his grandson, of the same name, in 1618, who sold the estate to Edward Turner, esq., of Walden, who was in possession of it in 1635,* and in whose family it continued till the decease of Edmund, the son of Thomas Turner, esq. when, in default of issue male, the estate passed to various possessors.

The mansion-house of Priors Hall is near the church, being of stone; it has on that account been named Stone Hall. The original appropriation of this estate being to an alien priory, it was seized by king Edward the third during his French wars, and obtained, either of that prince or his successor, king Richard the second, by William of Wickham, bishop of Winchester, who gave it to New College in Oxford, which was founded by him. It yet remains in this appropriation, and the college keep a court here.

Priors
Hall.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a small building of stone, which was in part re-built about the time of the Reformation; and recently, the ancient square tower having fallen down, a small wooden turret supplies its place above the west end, which has been rebuilt with brick. There were formerly six stalls in the chancel, understood to have belonged to Priors Hall; and in the wall two slender pillars with ornamented bases and capitals support a semicircular arch, with a Saxon moulding, the whole having the appearance of Saxon workmanship. The parsonage is a good house near the church.

Church.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and sixty-seven, and in 1831, three hundred and eighty-six inhabitants.

HENHAM.

The grounds of the parish of Henham are in general high, well wooded, and richly luxuriant, extending from Widdington southward, and to the hundred of Dunmow on the east; the river Granta, or Cam, forms the boundary between this parish and that of Ugley, flowing towards Audley End and to Cambridge; and other streams take their course in nearly an opposite direction toward the Stort and the Chelmer; which shows the propriety of the appellation "ad montem," "at the hill," usually applied to this parish, its Saxon name Hean, high, and ham, a mansion, being nearly of the same

Henham.

* Arms of Turner: Azure, a fesse engrailed, argent; on it a lion passant, or, between three mill rinds of the second.

BOOK II. import. In length it is about three, and in breadth two miles: the village contains some good houses, and a place of worship belonging to the Independents; it is on high ground, pleasant, and healthy; distant from Bishop's Stortford seven, and from London thirty-seven miles.

In the reign of Edward the confessor, the lands of Henham belonged to Ailid, to two freemen, and to Ansgar, a sochman: at the time of the survey, they were in the possession of Ralph Baynard, Eudo Dapifer, and Geoffrey de Magnaville. There are three manors; and the rectory is also a manor.

Henham
Hall.

Henham Hall is near the church; and the manor is what belonged to Ralph Baynard, from whom it passed to his son Geoffrey, and to his grandson William, on whose forfeiture, for desertion of the cause of king Henry the first in his contest with Stephen, this possession was given to Robert, a younger son of Richard Fitzgislebert; whose son Walter was his successor, followed by Robert, son of Walter, who assumed the surname of Fitzwalter, borne by his noble descendants, barons of the realm, for many generations. Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Walter, lord Fitz-Walter,* conveyed this inheritance, by marriage, to sir John Ratcliffe, who died in 1461. Robert, his descendant, created earl of Sussex in 1529, to his second lady had Frances, daughter of Hercules Meutas, of West Ham, widow of Francis Shute, esq., and she, at the time of her decease, in 1627, held this manor of Henham, and the rectory, of the king by knight's service. Her daughter and heiress, was Jane, married to sir Alexander Ratcliffe, who had this possession in 1635, which he sold to Lawrence Wright, M.D. of Dagenhams, in Havering: he died in 1657, and, with Mary his wife, was buried in the church of South Weald. Sir Henry Wright, bart. of the same place, was his son and heir: he married Anne, daughter of John, lord Crew, of Stene, by whom he had Henry, who died in 1681, aged nineteen, and Anne. He himself having died before his son, in 1663, aged twenty-seven; they are both buried in the church of South Weald. The widow, lady Anne Wright, enjoyed this estate as part of her jointure, till her decease, in 1708, when it descended to her daughter Anne, a very rich heiress; married, first, to Edmund, son of sir Robert Pye, of Farringdon, in Berkshire; afterwards to William Rider, esq. She sold this estate in 1720, with the concurrence of the heirs-at-law, to sir John Blount, bart., one of the directors of the South Sea Company; on the dissolution of which, it was purchased by Samuel Feake, esq., of Shering, succeeded by his son, Stephen Feake, and by J. S. Feake, esq.

Plechedon.

Plechedon Hall, vulgarly named Prison Hall, is about a mile south-eastward from the church; beyond which, in the same direction, is Plechedon Green, and the hamlet, which is two miles in extent. This manor includes what belonged to Eudo

* This noble family resided a considerable time at Henham Hall. Robert Fitzwalter was born there in 1249: as was also Walter, his son, in 1275; Walter, the son of Walter, in 1370, and Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Walter, lord Fitzwalter, in 1430.—*Monastic. Anglic.* vol. ii. p. 76.

Dapifer;* next to whom the earliest possessor on record was Gilbert Peche in 1274, and a second Gilbert Peche in 1322, held this manor of Adomar de Valence, earl of Pembroke, by the service of a fourth part of a knight's fee; as did also Gilbert, his son and heir. In 1360, it had become the property of John Malewayn; soon after which it again went to the Peche family, and was conveyed by Katharine, daughter and heiress of sir Geoffrey Peche, to her husband, Thomas Nothend.† She died in 1405, holding this estate of Ralph Neville, earl of Westmoreland, as of his honour of Clavering. Mirabel, wife of Robert Geddyng, and Margaret, wife of John Hinkley, were her daughters and co-heiresses. Afterwards the whole estate became vested in Margaret Hinkley, who died possessed of it in 1442, leaving her daughters, Alice, wife of John Marshall, and Cicely, wife of Henry Caldebeck, her co-heiresses. The last of these became ultimately possessed of this estate, leaving two daughters co-heiresses, Thomasine, married to John Turnor, of Haverhill, ancestor of the Turnors of Hallingbury, and Margaret, married to Geoffrey Bloodwell, of Thurlow. Henry Turnor, son of John and Thomasine, married Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Brooksby, by whom he had Henry, who held this estate in 1520 and 1528: in 1613, it was holden by William Watts, esq. of sir Francis Barrington, as of his manor and half hundred of Clavering; with a portion of the tithes out of Plechedon Hall. Afterwards it passed to the Crewe family, and Nathaniel, lord Crewe, bishop of Durham, on his decease, in 1721, left it to Thomas Cartwright, esq., of Aynho, in Northamptonshire, who had married Armine, one of his brother's daughters: afterwards it belonged to William Cartwright, esq.

The mansion belonging to the manor of the Broom, is a mile and a half south-west from the church. Of the proprietors of this estate there is no account from the first owner, Geoffrey de Mandeville, to the reign of king James the first. In 1616, sir John Watts died, holding this possession, whose heir was his son John; and early in the succeeding century it belonged to sir Philip Parker, bart., of Arwerton, who sold it to sir John Blount, of the South-Sea Company, and it was afterwards purchased by Mr. John Fell, wine merchant, from whom it passed to Joseph Fell, esq. of Saffron Walden.

The
Broom.

Little Henham is a hamlet, consisting of a few houses, about a mile north from the church.

Little
Henham.

The church has north and south aisles, the nave is separated from the chancel by a

Church.

* In Domesday, it is placed under the hundred of Clavering; and is stated to be a hamlet in Henham parish, belonging to the leet of Clavering hundred. Many instances occur in other counties of lands exempt from the jurisdiction under which they are situated, and annexed to distant lordships. Suene having been lord of Clavering, may have had extensive authority here, and the hundred may have had its dependants, as the castle of Stortford had, from whence the country had its protection from inroads, in return for which, some estate had to pay towards their support.

† Arms of Peche: Argent, a fesse gules, between two chevronels of the second.

BOOK II. screen, and the Gothic arches of the aisles supported by massive clustered pillars ; the building is large for a country village. A massive tower at the west end, above which a lofty spire rises, contains a good ring of five bells.

Plechedon
Canons.

Robert, son of Richard Fitz-Gislebert, gave two parts of his lordship of Henham to the priory and canons of Little Dunmow; and his son Walter gave this church of Henham to the same appropriation : this gift was called a manor, and named Plechedon Canons: afterwards the rectorial, or great tithes, being retained by the priory, a vicarage was instituted and endowed in the reign of king Henry the third, which continued in the patronage of the convent till its dissolution; and in 1536, the rectory and advowson of the vicarage were granted to Robert Ratcliffe, earl of Sussex, from whom they passed to the successive owners of Henham Hall.

Anne, daughter of John, lord Crewe, married to sir Henry Wright, bart., gave a farm at Little Henham, of about forty pounds a year, for the augmentation of this vicarage.

Obit.

A tenement, called Sammons, was given for a yearly obit.*

In 1821, this parish, with the hamlet of Plechedon, contained eight hundred and four, and in 1831, eight hundred and sixty-three inhabitants.

ELSENHAM.

Elsenham

This parish is surrounded by Henham, Stansted Montfichet, Ugley, and Broxton. A small stream, that puts a corn-mill in motion, separates it from Stansted Montfichet. It is calculated to be two miles across either way : distant from Saffron Walden eight, and from London forty-six miles.

In records the name is written, Alsenham, Elsingham, Elsinham, and Elsynham ; the derivation unknown. In the time of the Confessor, these lands were in the divided possession of Lestan, and of Meruena, a free-woman ; and at the survey belonged to John, nephew or grandson of Waleram, and to Robert Gernon ; the former had no other possessions in Essex, and his part of this was much the largest ; what belonged to Robert lying contiguous to his seat of Stansted, had been exchanged for another possession less conveniently situated.

* Monumental inscriptions, and recorded interments : Walter, lord Fitzwalter, who died in 1408, by his will, ordered his body to be buried in this church. A grave-stone in the chancel, inlaid with the effigy of a man in white marble, bears a Latin inscription, which informs us that beneath is interred the body of Thomas Kirbie, gent., who died the 26th of October, 1603, leaving Bridget, Robert, and Sussex, his children ; and Anne his wife, only daughter of William Brewster, late of Castle Hedingham, gent., and Mirabella his wife, daughter of John Poley, of Badley.

Charities. Henry Smyth, alderman of London, erroneously and unjustly called Dog Smith, left a good sum of money to purchase lands for the use of the poor of Henham, and other parishes in Essex. There are some alms-houses near the church, the gift of John Measont, of Debden.

The ancient habitation of Elsenham Hall is near the church; it was named New Hall, to distinguish it from the more ancient manor-house, the site of which is not known; the name of Nether Hall was also applied to the old mansion. Soon after the Conquest, a noble family named de Abrinci, barons of Folkstone, in Kent, had this manor, of which they retained possession till the decease of William de Abrinci, in 1230, whose son William died young, and Maud, his only sister, a rich heiress, was married to Hamo de Crevecoeur, who died in 1262, holding this manor of the earl of Hereford: he left four daughters his co-heiresses, of whom Isabel, married to Henry de Gant, had this estate: he died in 1271, and his wife in 1283, leaving no issue. The manor afterwards passed to the families of Rochford, Walden, and Barley.

Elsenham
Hall.

Katharine, the sister and co-heiress of John de Walden (who died in 1419, holding this estate), was married to John Barley, junior, of Barley, in Hertfordshire, from whence their name was derived: they were afterwards seated at Albury, in the same county. In 1445, John Barley dying, left his son Henry, who, in 1467, was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire, and died in 1475, in possession of the manor of Wicken, and holding jointly with his wife, relict of sir John Colville, all or part of this manor, of sir John Say; which his son William forfeited with his other extensive possessions, for supporting the party of Perkin Warbeck; but he was pardoned by king Henry the seventh; had his estate restored in 1500, and died in 1520, holding this manor of sir William Say, as of his manor of Saysbury: he was succeeded by his son Henry, who died in 1529: having married Anne, relict of lord Grey, he left by her, William, Antony, and three daughters: William married Joyce, daughter of John Perjent, of Digswell, in Hertfordshire, by whom he had two daughters his co-heiresses; Dorothy, married first to — Clopton, of Suffolk, afterwards to Thomas, second son of Edward Leventhorpe, esq., of Shingey Hall, in Sawbridgeworth; and Anne, married to Richard Barley, son of Francis Barley, esq., of Great Waltham, a distant branch of the same family. The Hertford estate was inherited by Dorothy; and Anne conveyed this to her husband, who died here in 1594: * Thomas their son and heir, left an only daughter, married to — Pine, esq., whose father was of Lincoln's-inn. This gentleman, in 1607, held the manor of Elsenham, the advowson of Springfield church, and the manor of Bibbesworth, in Hertfordshire; but being lunatic, was put under the guardianship of Henry Wiseman, esq., who had married his sister Mary, and they came and lived here: she died in 1635. Sir Thomas Adams, bart. purchased this estate of the heirs of Barley, and dying in 1668, left his son, sir William Adams, who died in 1688, and whose lady, named Jane, died in 1727, at an advanced age. Sir William was succeeded by his second son, sir Thomas, who, dying in 1690, was followed by sir Charles, the sixth son, on whose decease, in 1726, the title and estate descended to sir Robert, the eighth son; who sold this manor to William Dawkins,

Barley
family.

* Arms of Barley: Barry wavy of six, ermine and sable.

BOOK II. esq., and he gave it to Bayley Heath, eldest son of Thomas Heath, esq., of Stansted Montfichet.

Elsenham Cross. A manor, or estate, called Elsenham Cross, with a farm belonging to it, were granted, by king Edward the sixth, to Richard Chamond, and others, in 1553, to hold in socage.

Church. The church is a short distance from the village, on an eminence; an embattled square tower, with a slender spire, contains four bells. The entrance to this ancient edifice is under a semi-circular arch, with plain and reticulated Saxon mouldings, and supported by massive pillars, covered with indented moulding, and having capitals rudely formed and of very antique appearance. The whole, as we may reasonably believe, either Saxon, or very early Norman workmanship.

This church in 1070 was given to the abbey of St. Stephen, at Caen, in Normandy, by John, nephew of Waleram; and in the reign of king Richard the first, it was the gift of Beatrix, sister of Geoffrey de Mandeville, to the monastery at Walden, founded by that earl, though it is not known whether this possession came to that lady, by exchange or purchase. The abbey ordained a vicarage, and retained possession till its dissolution; when the rectory, which is a manor, was granted by king Henry the eighth to Thomas, lord Audley; who bequeathed it to his lady, afterwards married to sir George Norton; from whose daughter and heiress, Margaret, it passed by marriage to Thomas, duke of Norfolk, and to their son, lord Thomas Howard; who sold it to John Weever; about the time of the restoration, it was purchased by William Canning, esq., whose family retained possession till a late period.*

In 1821, this parish contained four hundred and thirty-four, and in 1831, four hundred and eighty-four inhabitants.

* Arms of Canning: Argent, three negroes' heads coupé, proper, escarsioned sable and argent.

Inscriptions:—On a grave stone in the chancel: "Here lieth the body of Thomas, the son of William Adams, esq., grandson to sir Thomas Adams, of Elsenham, bart. He died Jan. 17, 1660." On a brass plate in the chancel: "Here lieth the body of Alice Tuer, who died the wyfe of Doc. Tuer, vicar of this church, with whom she lived twenty-two yeres within two moneths and four days, without any of the least household breaches, either in deede or worde between them, such was her goodnesse. The widowe (first of Robert Claydon, of Ashdon, in Essex), by whom she had three children, Anne, who died before her mother, leaving behind her a young suckling daughter, called Mary, yet surviving, as also Thomas and John Claydon, who waited bothe at her funerall. Her humble soul God delivered from the downe-pressing birthen of this flesh, Oct. 7, 1619, in the year of her age, as her friends accounted, 72."—A similar inscription records the decease and burial of "Anne, wyfe of Thomas Fielde, only daughter of Alice (at the time of the decease and burial of the said Anne) the wife of John Tuer, doctor of lawe, then vicar of Elsenham. By her said saddy mother Alice (the daughter of Maister Richard Fitz-Hugh, of Eaton, in Bedfordshire, esq.), descended of the ancient and sometimes noble family, whose virtuous soul God took to himself the 9th of September, 1615, and of her age the 26th, leaving behind her one only image of herself, a young suckling daughter." There are also buried here, sir William Say, with his lady, in 1520. Richard Barley, with his wife, in 1594; and Anne his daughter, and wife of Henry Wiseman, who died in 1635.

Charities:—John Wells, fanwright, gave two cottages, of the yearly rent of three pounds ten shillings, to purchase clothing for the poor, at the discretion of the minister and trustees. There is also an endowment to teach two poor children.

TAKELEY.

From Elsenham the parish of Takeley extends southward to the extremity of the hundred of Uttlesford, and north-westward to Birchanger and Stansted Montfichet. It is in length three, and in width about two miles; in the village there is a place of worship for Independents: it is distant from Bishop Stortford five, and from London thirty-five miles. The lands are well adapted to the growth of oak, and other valuable timber.* The name in records is Tacheleia, Tachel, Takelee, Takelegh, Takkeleye, Thacelee; its derivation unknown.

Takeley.

Ulmar, Turchill, and two other freemen held these lands in the time of the Saxons; and, at the survey, they were in possession of Robert Gernon, Eudo Dapifer, and the priory of St. Valery, in Picardy: there are four manors.

A farm-house has been erected on the site of the chief manor-house at Green End, where the courts are kept. It was named the manor of Takeley, and also Waltham manor, from its appropriation to that religious house: it is not certainly known, but, from presumptive evidence, believed to have been given by king Henry the second: Henry the third granted them a market and a fair; and they had a grant of free-warren by king Edward the third. On the dissolution of the abbey, it was granted to Richard Heigham, and in 1554, had passed to Thomas Miller; on whose decease it became the joint property of Thomas his son, and Francis Salperwig, who, in 1574, united in conveying it to Robert Petre, esq. on whose decease, in 1593, he was succeeded by John, his eldest brother's son, afterwards created lord Petre; and, after remaining several years in possession of that noble family, it became the property of sir Isaac Shaard, knt. whose heir was his son Abraham.

Waltham
Hall.

Colchester Hall is nearly two miles from the church, north-eastward; this manor belonged to the abbey of St. John, at Colchester, having been in the possession of Eudo Dapifer at the time of the general survey, who was the founder of that monastery; yet, according to the record, he is only said to have endowed his foundation with two parts of the tithes of Takeley; other portions of this estate were given to them by other benefactors, and part of it was holden of the Playz family, of Stansted. The abbey retained this possession till their dissolution; and, in 1538, it was granted to Robert Foster, from whom it was conveyed to Robert Heigham, esq. whose brother William was his heir; and his widow Mary, married to John Colt, esq. left her son Thomas heir to this estate, which, in 1553, he conveyed to Thomas Thorpe,

Colches-
ter Hall.

* Takeley forest, Mr. A. Young observes, "is about one half covered with wood, among which, with a great deal of other very valuable timber, is an oak that measures, at five feet from the ground, fourteen feet in circumference, and is thought will cut to timber at the height of ninety feet."

BOOK II. from whom it passed to Thomas Wyberd, in 1557; it afterwards passed through the families of Russell, Wiseman, Crackbone, and Plumme; and to — Russell, esq. of North Ockington.

St.
Valery's.

The manor of St. Valery's, vulgarly called Warish Hall, was given, by William the conqueror, to the abbey of St. Valery, in Picardy, which had a small priory here as a cell to their house; it was founded in the reign of king Henry the first, and the prior who resided in it was procurator-general of St. Valery's abbey, and collector of all the lands they had in England. The revenues of the alien priories were repeatedly seized by English monarchs, and this is said to have been obtained of king Edward the third by William of Wickham, bishop of Winchester, for the endowment of his munificent foundation of New College, Oxford, to which it now belongs; and there is an ancient house about three quarters of a mile from the church, eastward, where the abbey was situated, and where the court meets: in the rolls it is called Takeley St. Walerici.

Bassing-
bourne
Hall.

The large and elegant modern mansion of Bassingbourne Hall is on an eminence which commands an extensive view over the surrounding country: it was erected by Francis Bernard, esq. who purchased the estate in 1745. It afterwards became the seat of the late sir Peter Parker; afterwards of — Laurence, esq.

The ancient estate of Bassingbourne is part of what belonged to Robert Gernon, whose family was succeeded by that of Bassingbourne, from whom it derives its name. Warine de Bassingbourne was sheriff of Cambridge and Huntingdon in 1170, and some of the family were settled here in the reign of king Henry the third; Alexander Bassingbourne, in 1239, and Stephen his brother, and John de Bassingbourne, are recorded occupiers under Giles de Playz, who died in 1303, and under Richard de Playz, who died in 1327; and from Nicholas Bassingbourne, who lived here in 1360, this family continued to hold this possession till the reign of king Henry the sixth. In 1437, sir John Howard, in right of Margaret his lady, heiress of the Playz family, held this estate and Chaldwell Hall: their only daughter and heiress Elizabeth, conveyed it, in marriage, to John, son and heir of Richard de Vere, earl of Oxford, who was beheaded in 1461: sir Giles Poulet, at the time of his decease in 1579, held it under Edward, earl of Oxford, as of his honour of Stansted Montfichet; his son William was his heir. In 1634, William Towse, esq.* serjeant-at-law, town-clerk of Colchester, and member of parliament, for that borough, died in possession of this manor, which was purchased of his heiress, in 1663, by John Kendal, esq. who, on his decease in 1679, left his son William his heir; he was of Trinity College, Cambridge, and a barrister of the Middle Temple, a gentleman highly esteemed: he married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Beckford, merchant, of London, by whom he

* He re-edified, or greatly improved the manor-house, which was also further improved and embellished by John Kendal, esq.

had seven sons and three daughters. John Kendal, esq. the eldest surviving son, was of Bennet College, Cambridge, and a barrister of the Middle Temple; he died unmarried in 1745,* and the estate being sold in chancery, was purchased by Francis Bernard, esq. son of Francis Bernard, esq. one of the judges of the court of common pleas in Ireland.

C H A P.
VII.

An estate named Tipswaynes in this parish formerly belonged to William Bannebury, who was outlawed at Hertford for treason and felony in 1473, but its situation is not known.

Tip-
swaynes.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is of stone, and has a nave and chancel, with a south aisle, to which there is an apartment named Bassingbourne's chapel; and opposite to it a strong room, formerly used as a depository for images of saints and relics.

Church.

William, son of Ralph de Hanville, gave the advowson of this church to St. John's abbey, in Colchester; but, in 1237, the abbot and convent gave up the whole patronage of it to the cathedral of St. Paul, and to Roger Niger, bishop of London, and his successors, for ever.

The parsonage, which is a manor, is leased out by the bishop of London; and when bishop Compton granted a new lease to William Kendal, esq. in 1680, he charged the estate with forty pounds a year, payable quarterly to the vicar, in augmentation of the vicarage.

A brass plate in the church bears the following inscription:—

Inscrip-
tion.

"Hannah Knollys gave to God, June 27, 1689, in augmentation of the vicarage, seven pounds per annum, for the due payment of which a house and freehold lands are tied; she likewise settled a house and orchard on the parish clerk for ever."

The tithe of about thirty acres of hay, ten of wheat, and ten of oats, are payable to the vicarage, out of the tithes of Warish Hall; and the farm failing, are to be taken out of the lordship.

A chapel was founded by Geoffrey, son of William de Hanville, at his own house, for his own convenience, on account of the badness of the roads, covenanting that it should be no prejudice to the mother church: no traces of this building are now discoverable.

Within the chapel and in the chancel are the following inscriptions:—

Inscrip-
tions.

"Here lieth buried the body of William Towse, esq. sonn and heyre of William Towse, serjeant-at-law, who departed this life the 29th of May, 1692."

"Within the chapel belonging to Bassingbourne Hall is interred the body of John Kendal, esq. who purchased the said manor of the heiress of serjeant Towse, in the year 1663, and departed this life the 29th of November, 1679, being the 78th year of his age."

* Arms of Kendal: Gules, a fesse chequy argent and azure. between three spread eagles. argent. two and one.

BOOK II.

"Stay, whosoe'er thou art, view here this marble which does entombe the body of Hannah, daughter of William Collin, of Lincoln's Inn, esq. relict of Francis Knollys, of Nether Winchington, in the county of Bucks, esq. She lived long and happily, and died without issue on the 23d of June, 1689; her executors fixed this stone as a lasting monument of her memory and their gratitude."*

In the church-yard:—

"To the memory of Mrs. Ann Nicholls, relict of Mr. John Nicholls, who departed this life the 6th of September, 1801, aged 78 years.

"My weary pilgrimage at length is o'er,

No pains or sickness now can vex me more;

I've laid my burden down, and in this cell
Bid all the troubles of the world farewell."

In 1821, this parish contained one thousand one hundred and thirty-four, and, in 1831, one thousand and ninety-nine inhabitants.

BIRCHANGER.

Birch-
anger.

This small parish extends westward from Takeley to the borders of Hertfordshire, and to Harlow hundred southward: from Bishop Stortford it is distant two, and from London thirty-one miles.

The name is in records Bilchaungre, Biliclangre, Bylchanger, Byleghengre, of uncertain origin. In Edward the confessor's reign, it was in the possession of Turchill, and having been given to the abbey of St. Valery at the time of the survey, was confirmed to that monastery by king Henry the second; but was seized by Edward the third during his wars with France, and remained in possession of the crown till it was granted, by Richard the second, to William of Wickham, for the endowment of New College, Oxford, who have also the advowson of this rectory.

Birch-
anger
Hall.

Princes
Wood.

The manor-house of Birchanger is an ancient building near the church.

Princes Wood was formerly called a manor, and holden as such by William Towse, esq. at the time of his decease in 1634. On this manor a lawless court used to be held at midnight. Stortford claims a right to this manor, which is believed to have been erected before the bishop of London had his lands restored, when they were taken away by king John, on account of the bishop's executing the pope's interdict.†

Church.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is very pleasantly situated on the summit of a hill, near the great London road. It is a small ancient building, the nave and chancel of one pace, with a round tower and a low shingled spire.‡ The parsonage house is a handsome building, not far distant from the church.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and thirty-six, and, in 1831, three hundred and sixty inhabitants.

* There were also buried here, William Collyn, in 1681; Mrs. Mary English in 1693: and the rev. John English, her husband, vicar of this parish, in 1716, in the eighty-third year of his age."

† This Wood was sometime ago in the possession of W. Ely of Bishop Stortford, and since of John Nicholls.

‡ William Parsons, LL.D. who was instituted to this living, June 30th, 1641, read the Common Prayer

STANSTED MONTFICHET.

Stansted
Mont-
fichet.

The parish of Stansted Montfichet is one of the largest in Essex, in circumference computed to be nearly forty miles. From Ugley and Elsenham northward, it extends to Birchanger and Takeley; and westward to Bishop Stortford, in Hertfordshire, and to Farnham, in Essex: distant from Saffron Walden nine, from Dunmow seven, and from London thirty-four miles. There is a fair here on the twelfth of May.

The town is large and populous, and consists of two streets, one of which, on the great road from London to Cambridge and Newmarket, contains numerous capital houses, and a large meeting-house, belonging to dissenters of the denomination of Independents. The other portion of the town is on the road to Elsenham and Takeley.

The meeting-house of Stansted is of considerable antiquity, and it appears from writings in possession of the minister,† that some of the family of Nicholls, formerly dissenters, were among its earliest benefactors: and a small piece of ground in Farnham was given by them for the purpose of a burying place.‡ In the indenture of the trustees of this meeting-house, made in 1698, tenth of William, the third, the names of Anthony Nicholls, of Farnham, and John Nicholls of Hatfield Broadoke, occur;

Stansted
meeting-
house.

in this church, during the interdict, in the time of Cromwell, notwithstanding the manifest danger he incurred: he was afterwards prebendary of Chester, rector of Lambourn, and vicar of Great Dunmow.

Inscriptions in this church, within the communion rails:

“ William Reade, of this parish, and Ann his wife, sole daughter and heir of Thomas Aleyn, of Branghen, in Hertfordshire, gentleman, by Jane his wife, one of the daughters of Thomas Laventhorp, of Albury Hall, in the said county, esquire. She died, 14th Nov. 1639. He, the 3d April, 1639. This monument was erected by their only son, Aleyn Reade.” Arms: A griffin segreant a canton impaling per bend rompu six martlets.

On the south wall: Charles Hippuff, esquire, late of Sion House, in this parish, and Birchington-lane, London; died 28th November, 1815, aged 68. Catherine, his wife, died 30th July, 1808, aged 37.

J. M. Bingham, late rector of Runwell, in this county; formerly minister of Gosport chapel, Hants, prebendary of the cathedral church of Chichester, and 48 years rector of this parish, died 30th January, 1807, aged 73. Catharine, his wife, died 3d July, 1799, aged 65. Arms: a bend cotised between six impaling *indistinct*.

John Micklethwait, esquire, of Beeston St. Andrew, in the county of Norfolk, died 27th February, 1799, aged 79. He was descended from the ancient family of Micklethwait, of Swine, in the county of York. Also, Elizabeth his wife, youngest daughter of William Peckham, esquire, of Iridge Place, in the county of Suffolk: she died 1806, aged 78 years. Arms: Chequy argent and gules a chief indented azure. Over all, on an escutcheon of pretence, Ermine: a chief quarterly or and gules. Crest: On a wreath, or and gules, a griffin's head.

On the floor: Michael Thompson, merchant, of London; died Oct. 20th, 1705, aged 57.

Alexander Watson, of Billiter-square; died 29th of March, 1789, aged 55.

† The rev. Mr. May, minister here, has compiled a short history of the meeting-house, for the use of the trustees.

‡ In this burial ground are the following inscriptions: “ Elizabeth, late wife of Zachariah Nicholls, of Barrington Hall, died 6 April 1787, aged 56. Zachariah Nicholls, late of Barrington Hall, died fourth of February, 1793, aged 63.

BOOK II. and also, in the successive renewals of the said deed, are found, in 1717, the names of John Nicholls, of Hatfield Broadoke, Zachariah Nicholls, of Farnham, and Thomas Nicholls of Little Hadham. A deed, bearing date 1724, tenth of George the first, authorises the grant, from Thomas Nicholls of Farnham, of a piece of ground at Hazel End, in that parish, part of the orchard of the said Thomas Nicholls, and of William Nicholls his brother. A deed renewing the trust, in 1751, contains the name of John Nicholls, of Little Hadham,* eldest son and heir of Thomas Nicholls of that place; and also the name of John and Zachariah Nicholls, of Farnham: and in the next renewal of the trust, in 1772, the investment was in John Nicholls, of Farnham, Zachariah Nicholls, of Barrington-hall, John Nicholls, of Takeley, and others. In 1813, the consignment was from John Nicholls, of Thaxted, son and heir of Zachariah Nicholls, late of Dunmow, who was the only son and heir of John Nicholls, late of Farnham.

The lands of this extensive parish are considerably diversified, some of them lying very low, and others exceedingly high. The name is Saxon, compounded of Stan, a stone, and yted, a place, derived from a visinal way, branching off from the great Roman road between Bishop Stortford and Colchester, in the direction of Stansted-street, toward Great Chesterford; the appellation of Montfichet is understood to have been given to this place in contradistinction to Stansted, in Hertfordshire; and pro-

* John Nicholls, of Hadham (great grandfather of John Nicholls, esq. of Islington), died in 1756, leaving John, Joseph, and William: John Nicholls was of Takeley, in Essex, died without issue, and was buried at Hadham, in 1775.

William, the third son, was married, and had John, and Ann. John, the son of William Nicholls, had by his wife ———, John, Anne, and Sarah.

Joseph, the second son of John Nicholls, of Hadham, married Susan, daughter of — Baker, of Matching, by whom he had John, and Zachariah; this last was of Hadham, and by his wife Mary, had William, who died without issue, and Ann and Sarah.

John, the eldest son of Joseph Nicholls, born in 1763, died in 1790, and was buried at Hadham: he married Mary, daughter of Mathias Miller, by whom he had his only son, John Nicholls, esq. of Islington, born in 1790: he married Elizabeth Sarah, daughter of John Rahn, of Enfield, esq., by whom he has Elizabeth, born at Islington in 1825, baptised at Theydon Gernon. Edward Hadham Nicholls, born at Islington, 1829, baptised at Theydon Gernon. John, born in 1832, at Islington, baptised at Theydon Gernon.

The family of Nicholls is of very considerable antiquity in the county of Essex. John, son of John Nicholls of Walden, is mentioned in a grant of land, dated 31st Edward I., and frequent mention is made of them in various parts of the county; a considerable branch of this family were long situated at Walden. The ancestors of the Nicholls, benefactors of Stansted meeting-house, were principally settled at Hadham, where they regularly appear for the last three centuries.

Arms of Nicholls of Essex: Sable, a pheon argent; on a canton of the second, an owl proper.—Another coat: Argent, on a chevron azure, between three wolves' heads erased, sable, as many crescents ermine; on a canton of the third, a pheon of the field. Crest: a squirrel, sable, holding a pheon, argent.

Arms of Rahn: A dexter arm issuing out of the sinister side of the escutcheon embowed and holding in the hand a sprig of three acorns. Crest: a sprig of three acorns. The family of Rahn (then called Von Rahu), came into England with George the first.

bably arose from a large artificial mount of earth* remaining here, on which the keep of a castle stood, erected by William Gernon, surnamed Montfichet. Some remains of the castle are yet perceptible about a quarter of a mile from the church.

This possession in the time of the Saxons was an inconsiderable estate holden by only one freeman: but, being given to Robert Gernon, and made the chief seat of the family, and the head of their extensive barony, it on that account rose to importance. The male line of this family continued five descents; first, Robert; second, William, who took the surname of Montfichet; third, Gilbert; fourth, Richard; fifth, Richard. The whole of this parish, divided into two manors, was in their possession.

Stansted Hall was a large and handsome ancient mansion, not far from the church, on the summit of a lofty hill, with an extensive prospect into Elsenham, Henham, and other neighbouring parishes. This venerable and stately fabric has been pulled down, except what has been converted into a farm-house. The estate belongs to ——— Maitland, esq.

Stansted
Hall.

The time of Robert Gernon's decease is not known; his son William, succeeding to the extensive family possessions, exchanged the former surname of the family for that of Montfichet, afterwards used by his descendants. He was the founder of the abbey of Stratford Langford, in West Ham. His son, Gilbert de Montfichet, is mentioned in the assessment of the aid for marrying the daughter of king Henry the second to the duke of Saxony. Richard, his son, was keeper of the forest of Essex, with the keeper of the king's house at Havering, and all the other houses of the king in that forest, and this office was confirmed by Henry the second. In 1194, he attended king Richard the first on his expedition into Normandy; and, in 1200, gave one hundred marks for a confirmation of his forestership of Essex, with the custody of the castle of Hertford; and was made sheriff of both these counties. On his decease, in 1203, he left, by Melicent his wife, his son Richard, who being under age, Roger de Lacy, constable of Chester, gave one thousand marks for his wardship, and his mother Melicent, in 1210, gave one thousand one hundred marks for the same wardship. Joining the discontented barons against king John, he was one of the twenty-five appointed to govern the realm; and in 1217, was taken prisoner at the battle of Lincoln: but regaining the king's favour in 1236, he was made justice of the royal forests in this and other counties: and also, in 1242, sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire, and governor of Hertford castle. He died without issue, in 1258†, leaving three sisters his co-heiresses: Margery, married to Hugh de Bolebec, of Northumberland; Aveline, married to William de Fortz, earl of Albemarle; and Philippa, married to Hugh de Playz. On the division of this noble inheritance, Bolebec had Stansted Hall; and De Playz had Bendfield-bury; Walter, son and heir of Hugh,

Gernon
family.

* A fixed, or firm mount.

† Arms of Montfichet: Gules, three chevrons, with a label of three points, azure.

BOOK II. was father of Walter Bolebec, who dying without issue, it remained in the several branches of the family, till John de Lancaster, with his wife Annora, sold the reversion of it to Thomas de Vere, one of the sons of Robert, third earl of Oxford, to whose family the other parts of this manor, which had been detached from it, were restored, and enjoyed by them through several generations.

Burnels. The manor-house of Burnels is on the side of the road from Stansted-bury to Stansted town, and the manor is what was conveyed by Alice and Maud*, the two youngest daughters of Hugh de Bolebec, to Robert Burnel, whose surname has been retained by the estate. He was bishop of Bath and Wells, and died in 1292,† leaving Philip Burnel, son of his brother Hugh, his heir, from whom it passed by several female collateral heirships, to sir Edmund Hungerford, who held under Francis, lord Lovel, Thomas being his son and heir; after whom it became vested in the family of de Vere.

Bury Lodge. The manor-house of Bury Lodge is by the road from Stansted Hall to Takeley common.

Bendfield-bury. The other most considerable manor in this parish is Benfield-bury, and the mansion belonging to it is about two miles north-westward from the church, near the river Stort. It is a hamlet to the parish of Stansted; yet the inhabitants elect a constable of their own, and formerly did homage or service at the court-leet of the half hundred of Clavering. This has descended with the other manors, from Robert Gernon to the Montfichet family, from whom it was conveyed by marriage to the family of de Playz; one of whose female descendants marrying sir John Howard, carried with her this estate, to which their grand-daughter succeeded; and was married to John de Vere, son and heir of Richard, the eleventh earl of Oxford, who, with his father, was beheaded for adhering to the house of Lancaster. Of their estates, forfeited to the crown, this of Bendfield-bury was, in 1498, given by the trustees of Richard, duke of Gloucester, brother of king Edward the fourth, for the erection of a chantry in the chapel of St. George, at Windsor. But this intention was prevented on the coming of Henry the seventh to the throne, who restored the De Veres to their honours and estates; and Bendfield-bury continued in that noble family, till Edward, the seventeenth earl, sold it to John Southall, who, in 1584, conveyed it to Edward Hubert, esq.,‡ from whose family it passed, in 1615, to sir Thomas Middleton, knt. Timothy, his second son, had his residence here, whose son Thomas succeeded him, and erected the modern part of Stansted Hall, improved the grounds, and made it a convenient

* She had four daughters, all of whom died before her; and her husband, Hugh de la Vall, was a man who rose to eminence, and acquired fame.—*Dugdale's Baronage*, vol. i. p. 626.

† He was afterwards lord chancellor; and in 1274 appointed keeper of the great seal; which high office he retained till 1292.—*Dugdale, Chronica Series*.

‡ His son, Edward Hubert, esq. married Elizabeth, daughter of John Ashenhurst, esq. of Great Baddow.

and elegant seat. Thomas, his son and heir, was many years burgess for Harwich, and left his son, Thomas Middleton, esq., his successor. This gentleman was member of four successive parliaments in the commencement of the reign of queen Anne. On his decease he left five daughters; and by his last will vested his estate in trustees, for providing portions for them, and to pay his debts, having no male heirs. Afterwards an act of parliament passed, authorising the sale of this estate, and it was purchased by Thomas Heath, esq., of Mile End, in Middlesex. On his decease he was succeeded by his eldest son, Bayley Heath, esq., sheriff of Essex in 1747. He died in 1760, and left his son and heir, William Heath, esq.*

CHAP.
VII.

The priory of Thremhall was within the bounds of this parish, about two miles south-east from the church, on the border of Hatfield forest: it was founded by Richard de Montfichet, for black canons of the order of St. Augustine, and dedicated to St. James; but the chief endowment of this house was by the noble family of De Vere, earls of Oxford, into whose patronage it passed in 1289.

Priory of
Threm-
hall.

The site and manor of this priory, with that of Derbitots, was granted to sir John Carey, and Joyse Walsingham, a widow, whom he afterwards married. Wymond Carey, their son, sold this estate, in 1566, to William Glascock and John Pavyott; and on the decease of the former of these, in 1578, his son, Richard Glascock, succeeded to this estate, whose son George was his heir; and in 1583 this and other possessions here became the property of the Ray family, the sole heir of which, in 1608, was John Ray, attorney-at-law, who died in 1638; his son and heir, Thomas, married Dorothy, daughter of Henry Glascock, esq., of Fernham, and had by her six sons, and five daughters: he was succeeded on his decease, in 1692, by his son George, educated at Christ's College, Cambridge: his son, the rev. Thomas Ray, erected a handsome house near the site of the priory. On his decease, he left two daughters, his co-heiresses; one of whom was married to Dr. Robinson, the other to — Wyatt, esq. of Canfield; and the former of these having purchased her sister's moiety of the estate, came and resided here.

Ray
family.

Several individuals of the families of Montfichet, of De Vere, and of Barrington, were interred in the priory church.

Stansted church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a small ancient edifice, which yet retains some interesting remains of its former appearance; particularly some part of the carved seats belonging to the chantry priests. The tower, which is of brick, and contains five bells, bears the following inscription:—

Church.

“This steeple was rebuilt and the foundation new laid at the sole charge of sir Stephen Langham, of Quinton, in Northamptonshire, knt., whose only daughter was married to sir James Middleton, knight,

Inscrip-
tion.

* Arms of Heath: Parti per chevron, embattled, sable and argent. In chief two mullets of six points, or, pierced gules: in base, a heathcock of the first, combed and wattled proper.

BOOK II. lord of the manor and patron of this church : as also the church was by him ceiled, repaired, and whited, and the porch rebuilt; all finished anno 1692.”*

**Advow-
son.**

This church was given to the priory of Thremhall, but at what time is not known. The “advowson of this vill,” as it is named in the record, was the gift of John de Lancaster. The first vicar was Robert de Bokkyngg, who died in 1361; but no certain endowment was assigned to it till 1441. John Carey and Joyse Walsingham, after the dissolution of the monastery, obtained a grant of the rectory and advowson of this vicarage; these were afterwards sold by their son, Wymond Carey.

**Vicarage-
house.**

The ancient vicarage-house, in Bradford-street, having fallen down, a piece of ground was given by sir Thomas Middleton to Mr. Reynolds, for himself and successors, where he, assisted by his patron and others, erected a convenient and handsome mansion, with outhouses, and garden; and as a reward for having effected this great and important improvement, Dr. Compton, bishop of London, gave him the rectory of Thorley, in Hertfordshire.

Font.

The font of Stansted church is ornamented with rudely-formed sculptures, and bears undoubted marks of great antiquity.

**Monu-
ments and
inscrip-
tions.**

On the north side of the chancel, the figure of a knight cross-legged, has been described by Mr. Gough, in his Sepulchral Monuments; as also by Weever;† it yet remains, but more mutilated than in his time.‡

On the floor of the chancel, on a small brass plate, in the cover of a stone coffin of a pyramidal form, is an inscription, in characters partly Saxon and partly Gothic, to the memory of the first vicar.§ Another brass plate bears an inscription.|| Also, against the south wall of the chancel, there is a handsome marble monument, to the memory of sir Thomas Middleton, who is represented in a recumbent posture, in a suit of plate armour with gilt studs, and a robe coloured gules and trimmed with fur, under a highly decorated arch: the inscription nearly illegible.¶

* Edward Huberd, esq. in 1682, gave a yearly rent-charge of twenty shillings, out of Crouch meadow, in Birchanger, and also a rent of forty shillings yearly out of Moorfield, and Little Burgatefield, for the use of the church.

† Gough's Sep. Mon. vol. i. p. 211. Weever's Sep. Obit. p. 654.

‡ Gough's description is as follows: “Under a large pointed arch, in the north side of the chancel at Stansted Montfichet, a stone knight cross-legged in mail, round helmet, lion at feet, two angels at head. Q. If a Montfichet from Tremhall Priory in this parish? Perhaps Richard, the founder, t. Henry I. or the founder of the church, as tradition says.”

§ “Hic jacet Robert de Bokkyngg, prim. vicar. ecclie parochial. Stansted Mechet, qui ob. 22 kal. Sept. anno Dni. 1361.” “Here lies Robert de Bokkyngg, the first vicar of the parish church of Stansted Mechet, who died on the 2^d day of September, in the year of our Lord 1361.”

|| Ann. Dni. 1609, Georgium Ray, generosum virum Dei immortalis colentissimum, mortaliumque omnium amantissimum, hoc marmor occultit.”

¶ In the year of our Lord 1609; this marble covers George Ray, gent., a very devout worshipper of the immortal God, and a friend to all mankind.”

¶ “Deo opt. Sacra. Repositum hic est depositum Thomæ Middletonii, militis ex antiqua Middletonorum,

This church has been supplied with two hundred free sittings, toward the expense of which, the society for enlarging churches and chapels contributed two hundred pounds.

ordovicensium familia oriundi, qui ab Ephæbis Londinum receptus, hinc. Negotiandi causa in extens Re-
giones Missus. Locorum, Linguarum, Mercium Morum, pertissimus explorator: privata professionis suæ
(mercatura) mysteria, tum publica Regni Negotia, sub auspitiis Walsingami, (cui inte notus) summa integri-
tate et singulari prudentia peragebat. Demum regressus Domum maximus urbis honoribus: Vicecomes et
Prætor Londini: laudatissime perfunctus supremi Purpuratorum ordinis Aldermanis in senatus facile
princeps ad mortem usq; permansit. Nec immemor qualem sibi et Reipub: apud exteros navasset operam
gloriosissimæ Elizabethæ præcipuum in Monitis locum illius fidei demandavit. Vir fuit omne virtutem
laude cumulatus: Devotus in Deum; fidus in principem; pius in patriam, morigerus in amicos,
officiosus in omnes, viduarum vero et orphanorum propugnator acerrimus, et quale suis columnen et asy-
lum, alios ad dignitatem, omnes ad divitias promovebat. Quatuor sibi uxores desponsavit, duabus
prioribus ex prima, Thomam Equitem auratum filium et hæredem; et secunda Timotheum et duas filias,
Hesteram, Henrico Salisbury, militis et baronetta, nuptam (fato functam) et Mariam J. Mainard Nobilis
Balnei ordinis Equiti sociatam, postremo cunctis usq; quo optari potuit successu coronatis; pie et
placide Animam cælo, corpus, humo, naturæ vitam (anhelans meliorum) reddidit. At memoriam Amicis,
maerorem civibus, dolorum suis, desiderium sui bonis omnibus reliquit, die Aug. 12, An. Sal. 1631, æt.
suæ 81 (aut eo circiter) mortuus et in hoc sacrario (sibi et suis condito) sepultus."

"Sacred to God all gracious. Here lie the remains of sir Thomas Middleton, knight, descended from
the ancient family of the Middletons, of North Wales; who went in his early youth to London, from
whence he was sent as a merchant into foreign parts. He made himself well acquainted with countries
and their languages, merchandise and manners: he performed the private mysteries of his profession
(that of a merchant) as well as the public business of the kingdom, under the auspices of lord Walsingham
(to whom he was intimately known), with the greatest integrity, and an uncommon prudence. At length,
having returned home, he had the greatest honours of the city conferred upon him, those of sheriff and lord
mayor of London. Having with the greatest applause discharged these highest offices, he continued, to
the time of his death, chief of the court of aldermen. Nor was the most glorious Elizabeth unmindful of
the services he had done her and the state in foreign countries; for she made him chief of her council.
He was a man of the greatest virtue; devout to his God, faithful to his prince, true to his country,
courteous to his friends, respectful to all, the strictest defender of widows and orphans. But what a sup-
port and refuge to his own relations! Some he advanced to honour; all to riches. He espoused four
wives; by the first of whom he had Thomas, knt., a son and heir; by the second, Timothy; and two
daughters, Esther (deceased), who married sir Henry Salisbury, knight and baronet; and Mary, who
married sir J. Mainard, knight of the noble order of the Bath. At last, all his affairs having been con-
tinually crowned with the desired success, he piously resigned his soul to heaven, his body to the ground,
in earnest expectation of a better life than this. But he left to his friends, the remembrance of himself;
to his fellow-citizens, sorrow; to his relations, grief; to all good men, a sense of their loss. He died on
the fourteenth day of August, in the year of his salvation, 1631; of his age 81, and is buried in this tomb
erected for himself and his family.

"Occubuit virtus, et in hoc inclusa sepulchro
Middletonorum gloria magna jacet.

Deditus esse Deo, patriæ pius, omnibus æquus
Londini celebras laude subire vices,

Indulgere bonis miseris solamen asylum

Orphanis viduis, et Deus esse suis.

Nil opus est saxi: hoc pectora fida loquuntur,

Illius illustant hæ monumenta rogem."

Translation. "Virtue hath perished; and in this tomb lies the great glory of the Middletons. Having
been devout to his God, true to his country, just to all men; having discharged, with applause, the highest
offices of the city of London; having afforded relief and protection to good men in distress, to orphans

BOOK II.

The parish of Stansted Montfichet, with the hamlet of Benfield, in 1821, contained one thousand five hundred and eighteen, and, in 1831, one thousand five hundred and sixty inhabitants.*

QUENDON.

Quendon.

Quendon is a small parish, intersected by the great road from London to Newmarket and Cambridge. The lands here are of various descriptions, the appearance agreeably

and widows, and having been (as it were) a divinity to his relations: there is no need of stones; faithful breasts declare these things: these monumental erections adorn his grave."

Principal shield of arms, quarterly of nine; 1, on a bend three wolves' heads erased; in the sinister chief point a mullet: 2, a chevron between three wolves' heads erased: 3, a lion passant: 4, on a bend three lions passant: 5, two birds in pale: 6, per pale a lion rampant counterchanged: 7, three cocks: 8, between a chevron three owls: 9, two serpents entwined. Crest: on a wreath a dexter hand. There are six other escutcheons on the monument.

Within the communion rails a marble altar-tomb, of excellent workmanship, bears a female figure in a reclining posture, habited in a close-bodied sable dress and a high-crowned hat; the mural compartments of the tomb are ornamented with devices emblematical of mortality; on the west end the following inscription, on the south side two shields of arms:

"Justorum memoria sempiterna."

Here lyeth the body of Hester Salvsbrye, late wyf to Henry Salvsbrye, of Lleweunye, in the county of Denbighe, esquier, eldest daughter of sir Thomas Middleton, knight, alderman of the City of London, and lord of this manor; who had yssve John, Mort, Thomas, Vrsula, and Elizabeth, and deceased ye 26 day of January, 1614. Dexter shield quarterly of 16; impaling 6 quarters, the paternal coat of Salusburye, a lion rampant between three crescents. Sinister shield same as the impalement of the dexter: the arms and quarterings of Middleton.

On the ground: Thomas Day, gent. an ancient inhabitant of this parish, and Dorothy his wife, daughter of Henry Glascock, his wife, of Fafnham (should be Farnham); he died May 4, 1692, aged 76, and she May 15, 1701, aged 82, having lived together 52 years.

The burying place of sir Stephen Langham and his lady. Sir Stephen died Sept. 1, 1709, aged 81: his lady, March 3, 1721, aged 84.

* Charities.—In 1604, Elizabeth Cook (otherwise Chapman) gave an acre of arable land in Stansted Stoneyfield, in Birchanger, the rent to be given by the churchwardens to ten poor widows of Stansted, yearly: in 1609, the same lady gave a field called Bull's Croft, in Great Hallingbury, and five shillings per annum for the use of the poor of Stansted. In 1612, Mr. Parnel Brown gave an annuity of twenty shillings to the poor, out of lands called Revels, payable on Christmas Day. In 1615, Mr. Dionysius Palmer gave an annuity of fifty-two shillings, to be given in bread to the poor, two shillings to the vicar, and one shilling to the churchwardens. In 1620, Mr. Robert Buck, of Ugley, by will, gave every third year, to three poor men, each a suit of clothes, and three suits to three poor women with hats, and three pounds in money for making. In 1705, Gertrude, one of the daughters of William Peck, esq. of Little Samford Hall, left, by will, sixty-six pounds, six shillings and eight pence, the interest of which to be given in bread to the poor every Sunday fortnight. Grace Judson, widow of the late rev. Jonathan Judson, vicar of this parish, bequeathed five pounds a year for ten years after his decease, to the poor widows of this parish, under the direction of Bailey Heath, esq. her executor. One hundred pounds was bequeathed by Mrs. Kitty Rush, sister of the late Bailey Heath, esq. to the poor of this parish, the principal of which is vested in the names of William Paris and Matthew Woodly, jun., and the interest, at five per cent. per annum, applied to the benefit of the Sunday-school, instituted in the year 1812.

diversified, in some parts hilly, in others flat and low. The village on the road-side is small, but has some good houses: the name from the Saxon Cpen, a queen, and don, a hill, Queen's Hill. The distance from Saffron Walden is six, and from London thirty-six miles.

Aldred was the name of the possessor of the lands of this parish in the time of Edward the confessor, which, at the survey of Domesday, belonged to Eudo Dapifer; and descended from him to the noble families of Mandeville and Bohun: of which last family, Humphrey, earl of Hereford, Essex and Northampton, in 1372, had two daughters, co-heiresses; Eleanor, in 1372, married to Thomas, of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester; and Mary, married to Henry, earl of Derby, who afterwards became king Henry the fourth. When the duke of Gloucester was murdered at Calais, he was succeeded in his estates by his daughter Anne, married to Edmund, earl of Stafford; and by a partition of the estates in 1421, between the said Anne and king Henry the fifth, the son of her aunt, this manor fell to the king's share, who settled it upon Katharine his queen; who was succeeded in this possession by Margaret, queen of king Henry the sixth, and afterwards by Elizabeth, queen of Edward the fourth; it remained in the crown till the year 1530: in 1533, it had become the property of Thomas Newman, esq. of Wethersfield, who was also possessed of a moiety of the manor of Rickling Hall, and the whole of the manor of Fange. He pulled down the ancient manor-house near the church, and erected a capital mansion, from him named Newman Hall; it is about three quarters of a mile northward from the church. Mr. Newman married Anne, daughter of Rooke Green, esq. of Little Samford, and had by her Anne, his only daughter and heiress, who conveyed this estate to her husband, James Wilford, esq. son of Thomas Wilford, esq. of Hartridge, in Kent, by Mary, daughter of sir Humphrey Browne, and grandson of sir James Wilford, who married Joyse, daughter of John Barrett, esq. of Aveley. James Wilford had by Anne Newman, Henry, his eldest son and heir, Anne, and several other sons and daughters. Anne was married to Edward Stafford, father of Henry lord Stafford, descended from Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham. Henry Wilford, esq. succeeded his father; and either he, or one of his descendants, was in possession of this estate in 1635, which, in 1645, he sold to John Benson, of London. It next belonged to Samuel Gibbs, esq. alderman of London, whose wife Anne, daughter of Francil Ashe, esq. dying young, left him no children, and he sold Newman Hall to Thomas Turner, esq. of Widdington, whose son, John Turner, esq. rebuilt the hall, and inclosed it in a park: it has since been named Quendon Hall. In 1717 it was sold by his son, John Turner, esq. to John Maurice,* esq. of Walthamstow, whose widow sold it to Henry Cranmer, esq. of the six clerks' office in chancery,

Manor.

Newman
Hall.Quendon
Hall.

* He was the second son of sir William Maurice, knt. secretary of state to king Charles the second Arms of Maurice: Gules, a lion rampant regardant, or.

BOOK II. who was succeeded by his son Henry: it is now the seat of James Powel Cranmer, esq.

The church is small, having a nave, south aisle, and chancel.*

In 1821, this parish contained one hundred and fifty-six, and, in 1831, two hundred and eleven inhabitants.

RICKLING.

Rickling. The parish of Rickling is separated from Quendon by the high road, from which it extends westward; houses belonging to these parishes are on either side of this road: in length, Rickling is about two miles, and in breadth one and a half: distant from Saffron Walden four, and from London thirty-eight miles.

This parish is stated to have been originally in possession of Rickel, a Saxon, from whom its name appears to have been derived. Earl Harold had possession of it in the time of the Confessor, and, at the survey, it was retained among the crown lands of the Conqueror.

Rickling Hall.

The ancient manor-house of Rickling Hall is about three quarters of a mile from the church, most pleasantly situated among the southern hills, upon which are the most delightful fields in the county. The house long retained some portion of its ancient grandeur; the walls of brick, of great thickness, surrounding a quadrangular court, the windows originally long and narrow, quoined with stone: the entrance-gate also arched with free stone, the walls of the gate-house of the same material, and having much the appearance of a chapel, or oratory, was embattled, and encircled by a moat, with an artificial mount, and a keep on the south-western side, where there was supposed to have been a dungeon. One of the apartments bore the name of the king's parlour, probably having, at a remote period, been honoured by the presence of a royal guest. The earliest recorded possessor of this estate was Beatrix de Saye, sister of Geoffrey and William de Magnaville, earls of Essex, who, on the failure of heirs male, inherited the great estates of that family. She died here in 1207. In 1331, Humphrey de Walden died in possession of this manor, and was succeeded by Andrew, the son of his brother Roger, who, on his decease in 1352, left, by his wife Joan, Thomas, his son and heir. In 1419, after having been alienated from this family, it was in the possession of John Walden,† who held it of sir John Heron, as of his manors of Sabrichford, Pouncyns, and Thurrocks, in Clavering. His sisters

* Inscription:—On a neat mural monument in the chancel: “Thomas Turner, of Newman Hall, in this parish, esq. son and heir of Thomas Turner, late of Westley Hall, in Cambridgeshire, esq. His first wife was Jemima, daughter of Thomas Waldegrave, of Smallbridge, in Suffolk, esq.; his second and last wife was Katharine, daughter of Robert Cheke, of Pirgo, in this county, esq.; he died Feb. 24, 1681, aged 39. His wife Katharine died June 13, 1685, aged 38.”

† Arms of Walden: Barry of four, argent and sable; on a chief of the second, three cinquefoils, of the first.

Katharine, wife of John Barley, jun., and Margaret, married to Henry Langley, were co-heiresses of the estate of the Walden family; and this being the portion belonging to Margaret, was named, from her husband, Langley Wildbores. Thomas was his son, whose son Henry died in 1488,* as did his wife in 1511, possessed of all the family estates, which she left to their only daughter Katharine, married to John Marshall, esq.; and she, on her decease in 1519, left her two daughters co-heiresses; Elianor, married to Henry, son of sir John Cutts; and Mary, married to John, son of Richard Cutts. In 1547, Peter Cutts died in possession of this estate, succeeded by Richard, his son, who held a moiety of the estate, the other being in possession of sir Henry, the son of Henry Cutts. In 1626, it was sold by John, son and heir of Richard Cutts, to Thomas Mitchel, of Codicote, in Hertfordshire. The other part of the manor became successively the property of Turnor, Wilford, and Newman, lords of Quendon, each portion of the manor retaining both a court leet and a court baron.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, or to All Saints, is built of stone: having belonged to the manor, it passed along with it to Geoffrey de Say, who gave it to the abbey of Walden; and that house appropriated the great tithes to itself, and, in 1237, ordained a vicarage, the collation of which, reserved to the bishop of London, has remained in that see to the present time.† In 1729, Mr. Henry Rix left two hundred and two pounds to the vicarage of this church, to which queen Anne's bounty of the same amount was also added.

Church.

In 1821, the parish contained four hundred and nineteen, and, in 1831, four hundred and forty-seven inhabitants.

NEWPORT.

This parish is surrounded by Wickham Bonhunt, Walden, Debden, Widdington, Quendon, and Rickling; and is intersected by the high road from London to Cambridge: it is one mile and a half in breadth, and in length three miles.

Newport.

The village, formerly a market-town, occupies both sides of the road, forming a considerably extensive street; from Walden distant three, and from London thirty-nine miles. It has a fair annually on the 17th of November, and on Thursday, in Easter week. There are many good houses and shops, and a place of worship belong-

* Arms of Langley: Paly of six, argent and vert.

† Sir Henry Langley, esq. died in 1458, and Margaret his wife, in 1453; they lie under a tomb by the south wall of the chancel.

On a mural monument in the church: "Near this place lieth interred the body of Robert Turner, gent. third son of Edmund Turner, of Walden, gent. (and Elizabeth his wife) lord of one part of the manor of Rickling. He died Feb. 2, 1657. This monument was erected by his brother and sole executor."

Charity:—Two acres of land were bequeathed to the poor of this parish, the annual rent of which is given in bread, by the overseers.

BOOK II. ing to dissenters, of the denomination of Independents, which was erected above fifty years ago.

The ancient name of Newport-ponds, applied to this place, was derived from a pond of considerable extent, on its southern extremity.* There was also an ancient cross, the remains of which were some time ago to be seen here, and which is mentioned in records.

Birchanger. Houses extending northward beyond the toll-bridge form a hamlet to Newport, named Birchanger; in the time of Edward the confessor, it belonged to Harolf; and, in the record of Domesday, is said to have been in the possession of Tascelin, a priest.

St. Leonard's Hospital. An hospital, dedicated to St. Leonard, was in this hamlet, toward Shortgrove, near the river, where there is a good house, the residence of — Ward, esq. supposed, in its present state, to contain a large portion of the original building: it bears on the front the date 1692, fourth of William and Mary, with the figure of a royal crown, and other ornamental carvings;† This hospital was founded in the reign of king John, by Richard, son of Serlo, of Newport; it had a master and two chaplains, who were under the jurisdiction of the dean of St. Martin's, in London, and had large endowments in Widdington, Great Wendon, Arkesden, Elmdon, and many other parishes; in 1345, John Flamberd gave lands and tenements to the master and brethren of this hospital, to find a priest to sing mass for his soul, in the chapel of St. Elene, within his manor of Bonhunt; John Quyntyn, of Newport, also, in 1346, gave to this house one and a half acres of meadow land, and nine of arable. The fair kept here on St. Leonard's day, was granted, by king Henry the third, for their benefit. On the suppression of this house, it passed with the hamlet, through successive proprietors, to the earls of Suffolk, Bristol, and Thomond; and to the present lord of the manor.

In ancient records a castle is mentioned as belonging to Newport, but nothing further respecting it is known.

The prison is a large and strong building fronting the street, in the northern part of the village. It is calculated to contain a great number of prisoners, and has a Bridewell; but, having no tread-mill, sends some of its convicts to Halstead, where a machine of that kind has been lately erected. *

* The Nightingale family had their residence at Pond Cross: particularly William Nightingale, who married Gonora, daughter of Geofrey Thurgood, of Ugley; and whose son Geofrey, esq. of the Inner Temple, marrying Catharine, daughter and heiress of John Clamp, had by her seven children. He died in 1608, and his eldest son Thomas was sheriff of Essex in 1627, and created a baronet in 1628.

† This building is traditionally said to have been the market-house; and as the market and fairs were originally for the benefit of the hospital, they were undoubtedly holden before the house, which, as long as the market continued, might have some connexion with it. There is a house, apparently ancient, not far distant from the church, which bears on the front toward the street well-executed old carvings, representing a king, with an infant in his arms; on his right hand, a performer on an organ, and on the opposite left-hand side, a person playing on a harp: the proper application of these symbols is not at present known. *

In the time of Edward the confessor, this town and manor belonged to earl Harold; and afterwards, forming part of the royal demesnes of the Conqueror, continued in possession of the crown till the reign of Edward the sixth, and under the early monarchs enjoyed ample privileges, with a market, fairs, and freedom from toll. The empress Maud gave it to Geoffrey de Mandeville, with licence to remove the market to his castle of Walden; and afterwards, in 1203, king John granted a fair here to Gerard de Furnival, who, in 1207, surrendered the town and castle* of Newport to the same king; of whom Baldwin de Haverkert obtained a grant of this manor. Richard, earl of Cornwall, and king of the Romans, the second son of king John, held this possession at the time of his decease in 1271, and was succeeded by his son Edmund. In 1307, it was granted to Piers de Gaveston, by king Edward the second; and John Revell held it in 1311, and during the king's pleasure; as did also Hugh de Audele, earl of Gloucester, with Margaret his wife, whose first husband was Piers de Gaveston. Henry de Ferrers held it under Edward the third, by the service of a knight's fee, till his decease in 1343; and king Richard the second gave it to Edmund Langley, duke of York, fifth son of king Edward the third. Newport, with the hamlet of Birchanger, was granted to William Lynde, for the term of forty years: and, in 1550, in the reign of Edward the sixth, this manor, with appertenances, was granted, as parcel of the dutchy of Cornwall, to Richard Fermor, esq.: it belonged to sir Ralph Warren at the time of his decease in 1553; and to his son, Richard Warren, esq. who died in 1597, and whose heir was his nephew, Oliver Cromwell, esq. of Hinchbrook, the son of his sister Joanna. Afterwards it passed, by purchase, to the noble family of Suffolk, and, on the partition of their estates, was allotted to George William Harvey, earl of Bristol, together with the hospital of St. Leonard, and the hamlet of Birchanger.

The lands of the manor of Shortgrove belonged to Ulwin and Grichel, two freemen, in the time of the Confessor: and, at the survey, were holden under Eustace, earl of Boulogne, his under-tenant, Adelolf de Merc, and Robert Gernon, who also had Widdington. This estate is not entered with the village, in Domesday, and is, in the Red Book of the Exchequer, said to be near Newport; and, in a charter of Henry the third, is named the *vill* of Shortgrove; yet, in a rental in the reign of Edward the first, it is expressly stated to be in the parish of Newport. In the reign of Henry the second, the prior and convent of St. Bartholomew, near Smithfield, in London, held this estate, under the family of Merk, and under William de Verdun: they also held lands and tenements included in the same manor, in Widdington, under Robert

Short-
grove.

* It is stated, that a market was continued at Chesterford, which Robert Bigot, earl of Norfolk, had procured to be holden there, to the great injury of the market of Richard, earl of Cornwall, at Newport: from which it appears, that if the market had been previously removed, it was brought back again.—*Pleas before the queen and king's council, 37 Ed. the third.*

BOOK II. Lenveyse; and in Debden under sir Reginald de Grey. In 1515, sir William FINDERNE died in possession of this estate, as did also his grandson, Thomas FINDERNE, in 1523: in 1558, Edward Elrington, esq. left it to his son Edward, whose son of the same name was his successor, and died in 1578, leaving a son named Edward, his successor. Giles Dent, esq. citizen and alderman of London, who died in 1670, was the next purchaser of this estate, which descended to his son of the same name, who, in 1675, married Grace, daughter of sir John Hewet, bart. and widow of sir Thomas Brograve, bart. of Hamels, in Hertfordshire. Afterwards the estate was sold to the right hon. Henry O'Brien, earl of Thomond, in Ireland, and viscount Tadcaster, in England: he married the lady Elizabeth Seymour, daughter of Charles, duke of Somerset, but had no issue; and, on his decease in 1741, left this estate, by will, to his nephew, Percy Windham, esq. second son of sir William Wyndham, bart. by the lady Katharine Seymour, sister to his lady. Sir William took the name of O'Brien, and was created earl of Thomond in 1756. This estate belongs at present to William Charles Pitt Smith, esq. whose father was secretary to the right hon. William Pitt. It is the seat of sir John St. Aubyn, bart.* F.R.A. and L.S.

Sparrow
End.

Sparrow End is a hamlet, or small collection of houses, a mile and a half northward from the church, on the road to Saffron Walden.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, has been formerly named the Queen's Free Chapel: it is on the highest part of the town, having a spacious nave, side and cross aisles, and a chancel; and a lofty tower with embattled turrets. A handsome carved wooden screen separates the chancel from the cross aisle, and behind this, under what was formerly the rood-loft, there are six stalls ornamented with curious carved work; and near the altar, the piscina,† and three stone seats have been allowed to remain in the wall. The font is large, and of an ancient form. There are two fine old paintings of Moses and Aaron.

Previous to the year 1353, the church of Newport belonged to the college of St. Martin-le-Grand, in London, with which it was given, by Henry the seventh, to the abbey of St. Peter of Westminster; where it remained till the dissolution and conversion of that abbey to a bishopric by Henry the eighth; and on the abolition of the bishopric under Edward the sixth, in 1550, this church was annexed to the diocese of London; the advowson of the vicarage remaining in the crown.

Obits.

There were twelve obits founded in this church.‡

* Sir John is of Clowance, in Cornwall. Creation 1671, born 1758, succeeded to the title 1772, married in 1822, Mrs. Juliana Vinicombe. Brother, rev. Richard Thomas. Arms of St. Aubyn: Ermine, on a cross gules, five bezants.

† These vessels are commonly found in ancient churches, as there was generally one attached to every altar, in which the priest washed his hands whilst performing the sacred rites, in allusion to the text, "I will wash my hands in innocency."—Ps. xxvi. 6.

‡ Inscriptions:—In the south aisle a slab of marble, with the engraved effigies in brass of a man and his

The vicarage received an addition of five pounds per annum, from Geoffrey Howland, esq. Giles Dent, esq. gave lands in Widdington, and one hundred pounds; and it was further augmented by Mrs. Rebecca Dent's bequest of two hundred pounds, to which was added a benefaction of the same amount from queen Anne's bounty.*

In 1821, this parish contained eight hundred and fifty-two, and in 1831, nine hundred and fourteen inhabitants.

wife, with two children on each side of them, is inscribed, "Here lieth Thomas Brond, whos soule God pardon." Round the whole is the following inscription, with the emblems of the Evangelists at the corners: "Pray for the soulis of Thomas Brond, and Mgery his wyf, whiche Thomas deceasyd the xxi day of Septembr. the yere of our Lord God m^o cccc^o xv. On whose soulis Jhu have mey. Amen."

Within the rails surrounding the communion table: "Here lyeth buryed ye body of William Nightingale, citizen and merchant of London (yongest sonne of Gefferye Nightingale, esquire, and Katherine his wife), who after three jorneyes out of Turkey from Egipte and Sidon, departed this life ye 19 of July, 1609, Ano. *Ætatis suæ xxx.*" Sutton, the founder of the Charter-house in London, appointed the before-named Gefferye Nightingale one of the sixteen governors of his institution, and at his decease left him a legacy of forty pounds.

On a large slab close to this, are the portraits in brass of a man in a gown, and his wife; above their heads are the arms of Nightingale. The inscription is as follows: "Here lyeth buryed ye body of Katherine Nightingale, wife to Gefferye Nightingale, esquire, who had issue between them 7 children—Thomas, Henry, William, Marye, Anne, Jhone, and Elizabeth. She departed this life the 9 November, in the 54 yeare of her age, and in the yeare of our Lord 1608. A grave and modest matron shee was, loveing and faithfull to her husbände, carefull and tender over her children, kinde to her freendes, curteous to all, helpfull to ye poor, hurtfull to none: her sorrowfull surviving husbände hath caused to be made this durable monument as a sadd memorial of his greate losse and her worthe."

Against the north wall of the chancel is a handsome mural monument, adorned with shields of arms, &c. The inscription is as follows: "In a vault underneath lies interred ye body of Dame Grace Brograve, youngest daughter of sir John Hewett, late of Waresley, in the county of Huntingdon, bart. In Febr. 1662 she was married to sir Thomas Brograve, of Hamells, in the county of Hertford, bart., who dying in ye yeare 1670, she, on ye 27 of July, 1675, was married to Giles Dent, of this parish, esq., son and heir of Giles Dent, late citizen and alderman of London, and departed this life the 20 of Sept. 1704, in ye 68 year of her age. Here also lies interred the body of ye said Giles Dent, her husband, who departed this life ye 9 of Febr. 1711, in the 73 year of his age. He built Shortgrove-hall, in this parish, and by his will directed this monument to be erected."

There are also inscriptions to the memory of other individuals of the Nightingale and Dent families, and of Margaret Firmin, widow of Thomas Firmin, and daughter of Giles Dent, esq.: she died in 1719, aged 78. There is also buried here Giles Firmin, son of Thomas and Margaret Firmin; he died at Oporto, in Portugal, from whence he was brought here and interred.

In the church-yard, an altar-tomb bears the following inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Christopher Verlet, a native of Switzerland, who, in the year of our Lord 1777, entered into the service of sir John St. Aubyn, of Clowance, in the county of Cornwall, bart., in whose service he continued till the time of his death, which took place on the 9th of August, in the year of our Lord 1827, at Shortgrove, in the county of Essex, in the 80th year of his age. Sir John St. Aubyn, as a token of respect for a faithful servant, ordered this memorial to be erected."

* Charitable gifts:—The free grammar-school was founded in 1588, by Joyce Frankland, widow, and William Saxie, her son; and endowed with a portion of the great tithes of Banstead, in Surrey; two houses in Little Distaff-lane, London; and a tenement at Hoddesdon, in the county of Hertford; then of

BOOK II.

Wickham
Bonhunt.

WICKHAM BONHUNT.

This parish lies between Newport and the half hundred of Clavering, from which it is separated by the stream called Bonhunt Water: it is about a mile square, occupies low ground, and is thinly inhabited: distant from Walden five, and from London forty miles. It is distinguished from two other parishes in Essex, bearing the Saxon name of Vickham, by its secondary appellation of Bonhunt: the name in records is Wicken, Wiken, Wickin, Wykyn, Wylden; with Bonant, and Bonnet. The name in Domesday is Wicam, and Banhunt; which two manors became united about the time of queen Elizabeth. Sexi, a freeman, held Wickham in the time of the Confeſſor; and Banhunt, at that time, belonged to Aluric, also a freeman: at the survey, the first was in the possession of Gislebert, son of Turolde, and the latter belonged to Saisselin. Wickham Hall is a short distance north-westward from the church; and the manor-house of Bonhunt lies half a mile distant from it, in a north-easterly direction.

Wickham
Hall.

The family of Barlee, or Barley, for several generations held the manor of Wickham of the king, as of his duchy of Lancaster. John Barley died in possession of it in 1445, as did also his son Henry in 1475, followed by William Barley his son, who held this manor of Wylden (as it is named in the inquisition) with the advowson of the church: he was succeeded by his son Henry, who died in 1529, and in 1557 this estate was sold by his son William to Robert Chatterton, of whom it was purchased by Matthew Bradbury;* who was succeeded by his eldest son William, followed successively by Matthew, a second Matthew, and Francis, who marrying Anne, daughter of George James, esq. of Manuden, had by her his son and successor John, who died without issue; Francis, of Clifford's-inn, who died a bachelor; William, a

the annual value of twenty-three pounds, ten shillings, but now amounting to about two hundred and seventy-five pounds, and the master's salary being two hundred and five pounds.

The master of Gonvil and Caius College, Cambridge, was appointed the governor of this school, which is open to the boys of the parish free of expense, except that of books; and if the number of fifty boys are not sent by the parishioners, that number may be supplied from any other place; but no other scholars are educated here: they are admitted at the age of seven, and remain five or six years. During the last twenty-five years, only reading, writing, and arithmetic have been taught, though the rules direct the Greek and Latin languages, with algebra and trigonometry to be included, if required by the parents; and at the annual visitations, scholars may be examined, and if three or four be found qualified, they may be admitted, according to their "auncyenterye," to vacant scholarships of the foundation of Mrs. Frankland and her son, in the said college.

A farm called Gaces, formerly twenty pounds a year, was given by John Covill, and Agnes his wife, to help poor people who receive no collection.—An annuity of thirteen shillings was left for the poor of this parish, by Mrs. Martin, of Crishall.—An annuity of five shillings was left for them by Mr. Stratton.—Mr. Richard Coleman, of Duxford, in Cambridgeshire, left six shillings a year to be given to six poor widows.

* He was the second son of Robert, and nephew of Thomas Bradbury, sheriff of London in 1498, and in 1509 lord mayor.

captain in the guards, killed in a duel; James, of Magdalen college, Cambridge, a chaplain in the army, who adventuring farther than the duty of his office required, was slain in the Spanish war; and Thomas, who died an infant: he had also two daughters, who died without issue; and his successor was therefore his brother Matthew, whose only daughter Dorinda, conveyed this estate to her husband, Joseph Sharp, who sold it to Joseph Hetherington, esq., on whose decease, in 1745, he was succeeded by his brother, Henry Hetherington, esq., and in 1765 it belonged to — Martin, esq.

The first mention of the manor of Bonhunt is in 1340, when John Flambard had licence to endow the hospital of St. Leonard, at Newport, that the brethren might find a chaplain to celebrate mass for his soul within his manor of Bonhunt, in the chapel of St. Elene there. In 1436, and afterwards for several generations, it was in the family of Green, from whom it passed to those of Bradbury, and Nightingale, and to Henry Cranmer, esq. of Quendon. Bonhunt.

The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a small building of stone, with a low wooden steeple, containing three bells. Church.

This parish, in 1821, contained one hundred and twenty-two, and in 1831, one hundred and thirty-four inhabitants.

ARKESDEN.

The Saxon name of this parish is Arceden, “a chest or coffer in a valley,” but its significant application cannot be understood. The rivulet that flows through Wickham Bonhunt to Newport has its origin here, and waters the grounds as it passes: the soil is in some instances light and sandy, in others wet and heavy; and the face of the country of varied appearance. It extends from Wickham Bonhunt to the Wendons, and to the half hundred of Clavering, being in length about three miles, and in breadth of nearly the same extent. From Saffron Walden distant five, and from London forty-two miles. Arkesden.

At the close of the Saxon era, this parish was in the possession of various proprietors, but the names of the manors can only in a few instances be now identified with the lands to which they belonged. Aleric Wants was the owner of Archesdana; Boso, and a freeman, had Wiggepet and Coggeshalls; Ulmar, had Einesnurda; Lewin, was in possession of Peverels; Godwin Sech, of Bledstowes; and Grinchel, of Mynchins. At the time of the survey of Domesday, these lands belonged to Eudo Dapifer, Geoffrey de Magnaville, William de Warren, Roger de Otburville, and Robert Gernon.

Woodhall, the mansion-house belonging to the capital manor of Arkesden, also named Chawdwells, is on a gentle ascent, distant from the church about half a mile, southward. It belonged to Eudo Dapifer at the time of the survey; and passed, in marriage, with his daughter and heiress Margaret, to William de Mandeville. Some- Woodhall

BOOK II. time previous to the year 1165, king Henry the second had given the honour of Eudo to Henry his chamberlain, son of Gerold, whom he succeeded in that office; and under whom Jordan and William de Arkesden held four knights' fees, wanting a quarter. Henry, the chamberlain, married Ermentruda, daughter and heiress of Robert Talebot of Gainsborough, in Lincolnshire, and left his daughter Alice his sole heiress, married to Robert de Insula, or de Lisle, from whom the family of that name, lords of Rugemont, in Bedfordshire, are descended; and of whom this estate was afterwards holden, receiving the name of Lisle's fee: it descended with the chamberlainship of the exchequer, from Margaret, the daughter of Warine Fitz-Gerald, to Isabel her grand-daughter, whose father was Baldwin de Rivers: this lady was married to William de Fortz, earl of Albemarle. Adam de Stratton was appointed her deputy in the office of chamberlain;* from which he was removed, in 1302, for having acted feloniously in that office. The family of Bayeux afterwards held this estate; sir Richard and sir Robert, in 1357, sir Ralph, in 1362, and others of the same family, till sir Richard de Bayeux, in 1369, granted all his right in this manor to sir William de Burton; who at the time of his decease, in 1375, jointly with his lady Alianore, held it† of the duke of Lancaster; Thomas was his son and heir. In 1445, Joan, wife of John Hotoft, died possessed of this manor, holden of the king, as of his dutchy of Lancaster. Thomas Langley of Rickling, held it with those of Peverells, and Wiggepet and Coksales, with a tenement named Coshe, and possessions in other parishes; on his decease, in 1471, he left Henry Langley his son and heir; who died in 1488, and his wife Katharine had all these estates in jointure in 1511; which their only daughter and heiress Katharine conveyed to her husband, John Marshall, esq., to whom she bore Elianor, married to Henry Cutts, son of sir John Cutts, of Horeham-hall, in Thaxted; and Mary, married to John, son of Richard Cutts. Eleanor died in 1537, and her husband enjoyed these estates till his decease in 1573, his successor being their son, sir Henry Cutts. Peter Cutts, the son of John and Mary, is also recorded at the time of his decease, in 1547, to have held, as joint-tenant, the manors of Woodhall, Wiggepet, Coggeshalls, Peverels, and a moiety of some others: Richard Cutts was his son, between whom and sir Henry a partition being made, each of them had a moiety of these estates, which remained in the family till baron Cutts, of Gowran,‡ sold this estate, in 1721, to Thomas Maynard, esq. of Bury St. Edmunds;

* At the Pleas at Chelmsford in 1285, the jurors present: Item, as for what concerneth serjeancies, they say that Arkesden is a member of the serjeancie of the chamberlainship of the exchequer of our lord the king, which serjeancie Adam de Stratton has of the gift of the countess of Albemarle, by the king's consent.—*Placita apud Chelmsford*, 13 Ed. I.

† Then first named in the record, Woodhall.

‡ Richard died in 1592, and Mary his wife, daughter of Edward Elrington, esq. of Theydon-Bois, in 1594. Their son Richard, on the decease of sir Henry Cutts, in 1603, without issue, came to his share of the estate, but dying in 1697, also without issue, was succeeded by his brother, afterwards sir William

of whom it was afterwards purchased by Richard Cheeke, esq. apothecary, in Wychstreet, London, treasurer of Christ's Hospital, who on his decease, in 1740, was succeeded by his son, Robert Cheeke, esq.

CHAP.
VII.

The manor of Mynchens, or the Parsonage, also named Becketts, belonged to Grinchell, in Edward the confessor's time, and to Robert Gernon, at the time of the survey. In 1327, it had become part of the endowment of the nunnery of Campsey, in Suffolk, but by whom given cannot be discovered: the prioress and convent demised it to the abbot and monastery of Walden for a term of years; and afterwards, in 1364, by licence granted from king Edward the third, released to the said abbot and monastery, and their successors, all their right to this manor; which was retained by them till their dissolution, when it was granted, with the advowson of the vicarage, to lord Audley, whose only daughter Margaret conveyed it, with the manor and rectory, in marriage to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk; who, in 1562, sold Mynchens, the rectory of Arkesden, and a tenement called Sherperers, to Richard Cutts, esq., from whom they have passed with the other estates of the family in this parish.

Mynchens
or the Par-
sonage.

Bokeles is a manor belonging anciently to an owner of that name: it was in possession of sir Thomas Meade, and on his decease in 1584, it descended to his son John Meade, esq., from whom it passed through the families of Smith, Hanchet, and others, to Alexander Forbes, esq.

Bokeles.

The church is a large handsome building on the side of a hill, with a nave, north and south aisles, and chancel, and a square tower containing six bells. It is of stone, and dedicated to St. Mary. The north aisle was built about the time of king Henry the seventh, by Thomas Alderton, stock-fishmonger, of London, who also founded a chantry here.*

Church.

In 1821, this parish contained four hundred and fifteen, and in 1831, four hundred and ninety inhabitants.

Cutts, who dying in 1609, left his son Richard his successor, whose son John, being, on his father's decease, in 1626, only six years of age, was left in the wardship of king Charles the first. He married a daughter of sir Richard Everard, bart. of Much Waltham, by whom he had his son and heir Richard, who removed to Childerley, in Cambridgeshire, where he had an estate left by a distant relation of the same family name. His children were Richard, John, and three daughters; of these, John became heir of the family. He was educated at Catharine Hall, Cambridge; and going a volunteer to the siege of Buda, was made adjutant-general to the duke of Lorraine. At the revolution he came home as a lieutenant-colonel of a Dutch regiment: served in Ireland, had a regiment given him, and in 1690 was created baron Cutts, of Gowram: in 1693 was governor of the Isle of Wight, on which he had made a descent with the former governor, lieutenant-general Talmash, who there received his death-wound. In 1694, he was made colonel of the Coldstream regiment of guards: was wounded at the battle of Steinkirk; in 1702, commanded at the siege and storming of Venloe: made all the campaigns in the first and second war in Flanders; and signalized himself at the attack on the town of Blenheim. But not being sufficiently obsequious to the duke of Marlborough, he was sent into Ireland, as one of the lords-justices, and died there in 1706: he was three times married, but left no issue.

* A large altar-tomb in the chancel bears the effigies of the two persons whom it commemorates;

BOOK II.

GREAT WENDON.

Great
Wendon.

Three parishes, distinguished by the names of Great and Little Wendon, and Wendon Loughts, are entered in Domesday as one lordship. The Saxon name Wandon, a compound of Wan, white, and don, a hill, may have been with propriety applicable; but the first syllable has several meanings.

Great Wendon is situated on the west side of the Newmarket road, and lies between Arkesden and Littlebury: it is distant from Stortford ten, from London forty-one miles; and in circumference is computed to be about seven.

Great Wendon, at the close of the Saxon era, was one possession, holden by a free-man; and at the survey belonged to Robert Gernon, whose successors were the families of Montfichet and De Playz. In 1165 it was holden as two knights' fees under William de Montfichet by John de Wendene; and Alexander Bayloll held it under Giles de Playz, who died in 1303. Richard de Playz died in 1327, and it was holden under him by Thomas de Berkeley; whose son sir Maurice succeeded to the same possession under sir John de Playz by the service of one knight's fee: his widow Elizabeth had it as part of her jointure, till her decease in 1389, it being at that time holden of sir John Howard and Margery his wife, daughter and heiress of John de Playz: Thomas, lord Berkeley, was their eldest son and heir, and seems the last of the family who retained this possession. The names of Edrike and Loveney afterwards occur in records as holding this estate; and in 1442, John Loveney, esq. held it of John, earl of Oxford: his heir was Thomas Cavendish, esq. Sir John Fray, chief baron of the exchequer, was possessed of this estate at the time of his decease in 1461; his daughter Elizabeth, by marriage, conveyed it to sir Thomas Waldegrave; and in 1571 it was sold by William Waldegrave, esq. to John Barker, esq., from

above which, six pillars support a canopy, on which are sculptured coats of arms, and the following inscription:—"Heare lieth Richard Cutte, esquier, sonne and heire to Peter Cutte, esquier, sonne and heire to John Cutte, esquier, sonne and heire to Richard Cutte, esquier, which Richard was brother to sir John Cutte, of Horam Hall, in Thaxted, treasurer, of the most honourable household of the mighty king Henry VIII. This Richard died 16 Aug. 1592.—Heare lyeth also Mary Cutte, late wife of this Richard, and daughter of Edward Elrington, of Theydon Boys, in Essex, esq., chief butler of England to the most renouned king Edward VI., queen Mary, and queen Elizabeth. This Mary died 20 Jan. 1594."—There are also figures of their four sons and two daughters: Richard Cutte, eldest son of this Richard and Mary Cutte, who caused this monument to be erected: William, their second; Francis, their third; and John, their youngest son: also, Barbara, their eldest, and Dorothy, their youngest daughter.

There is also an elegant marble monument, with a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation: "Sacred to the memory of John Withers, of the Middle Temple, who lies under this marble, together with his dearly beloved wife, Ann, daughter of Richard Cutts, esq., formerly of this parish: he, after having lived 73 years, died on the 28th of November, in the year of our Lord 1692; but she in the bloom of youth.

"William Withers, nephew and heir, erected this monument, as a testimony of his gratitude to his very dear and worthy uncle."

whose family it was purchased by the earl of Suffolk, and on the partition of the Audley End estates, this manor and that of Little Wendon, with the united advowson and the rectorial tithes, were allotted to the earl of Bristol, whose descendant alienated the whole of his property in both parishes (with the exception of the advowson) to the late lord Braybrooke.

Little Wendon, before the Conquest, was the property of a thane named Ulmer, and at the survey of Domesday, of William de Warren: it afterwards belonged to the knightly family of Fitz-Ralph of Pebmarsh, surnamed Pebeners, from that place. William de Pebeners, also named Fitz-Ralph, had free warren here in 1338; and John Fitz-Ralph, knt. was his successor in 1399. It afterwards passed through the families of Cavendish, Fray, and Waldegrave, to the noble families of Suffolk and Bristol.

Little
Wendon.

Clanmer, or Clanfield-end, is a hamlet in this parish.

The rectory of Little Wendon and the vicarage of Great Wendon, were consolidated in 1662 by bishop Sheldon, at the request of the inhabitants, with the consent of the earl of Suffolk, the patron; and the rates are assessed in the proportion of two parts to Great and one to Little Wendon. The church of Little Wendon, which was on the northern side of the road from Wendon Loughts to Great Wendon, as also the vicarage-house of Great Wendon, both being ruinous, were destroyed; but the parsonage-house of Little Wendon has been repaired and appropriated to the Vicar of Wendons Ambo, as he is styled in the act of Union.

The church of Great Wendon, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a small ancient building, with north and south aisles, a nave and chancel, separated by a carved wooden screen; and between the aisles and nave, by heavy pillars, supporting Gothic arches. A square low tower, with a spire, contains five bells.

Church.

The united parishes contained, in 1821, three hundred and thirty-six, and, in 1831, three hundred and thirty-three inhabitants.

WENDON LOFTS, OR LOUGHTS.

This parish northward is bounded by Elmdon; extends westward to Crishall and Great Ghishull, and to Littlebury on the east. It is approached through a fine open country, in every direction presenting extensive prospects, is thinly inhabited, and contains few houses. The name Lofts, or Loughts, is also in records written Lout, Loutes, Louth, Lowtes, Lendon, and was probably derived from Henry Lo Hout, who possessed the manor in the time of Henry the third.

Wendon
Lofts, or
Loughts.

This parish belonged to Alwin Stille, a Saxon freeman, in the time of Edward the confessor, and at the survey was in the possession of Ralph Baignard and his under-tenant Amelfrid. On the forfeiture of William, the son of Ralph Baignard, this estate appears to have been granted to the Fitzwalter family; and about the time of

BOOK II. king John, or Henry the third, two knights' fees, at Wendon, in Essex, of the barony of Baignard, then vested in the Fitzwalter family, were holden of them by Robert Lanhot.

Manor of
Lofts.

The two knights' fees in this parish which were holden under Robert Fitzwalter by Maud Lawney and Alice le Bottiler, in 1328, and on his decease, under Walter Fitzwalter, who died in 1386, formed what is now the chief manor. Thomas Lawney and his partners afterwards held it as one fee. In 1406 it is said to have belonged to sir Walter Fitzwalter, and to have been previously in the possession of Benedict de Alders, the abbot of Tiltey, and Robert Rokele. It belonged to Richard Knesworth, who conveyed it to John Shelley in 1476; and in 1559, Thomas Crawley, esq. held it under Henry, earl of Sussex, as of his manor of Wimbish; Anne, daughter of John, his grandson, was his heiress on his decease in 1559.

Meade
family.

The Meade family were a considerable time in possession of this estate, which was purchased by Thomas Meade,* serjeant-at-law, in 1567, and in 1578 one of the judges of the King's Bench; in his family it continued several generations, till it was sold by the co-heiresses of John Meade, esq. to Richard Chamberlain, esq. of London, sheriff of Essex in 1722: he married Sarah, daughter of Geoffrey Stane, esq. of Hatfield Broadoak, by whom he had Stane Chamberlain, his son and heir. Afterwards this estate was sold under a decree of chancery to Nathaniel Wilkes, esq. from whom it descended to John Wilkes, esq. the present possessor.

Manor-
house.

The manor-house is a fine old building, pleasantly situated on rising ground, and commanding agreeable prospects of wide extent, in various directions. It is inclosed in a park, with gardens and plantations, and at a convenient distance, on the southern front, is an ornamental stream of water. It is the seat of John Wilkes, esq.

Dodenhall
Grange.

Dodenhall Grange manor-house is on the extreme boundary of the parish, and the

* His father, Thomas Meade, esq. was the first of the family who came into this county: he settled at Elmdon, where he was succeeded by his son Thomas: he had also Reginald, settled at Elmdon; a second Thomas seated at Crishall; and two daughters. Thomas Meade of Wendon Lofts, married Joan Clamp of Huntingdon, a widow, by whom he had Thomas, Robert, and Matthew, of whom the two last were never married: the father died in 1585, but this estate does not appear in the inquisition taken on that occasion; but it was in the possession of sir Thomas Meade, his son, at the time of his decease in 1617; who had holden it under Robert, earl of Sussex, as of his manor of Wimbish Hall; secondly, under John Pearndon, as of his manor of Crishall-bury; and thirdly, under the lord of Cheswick Hall, in the same parish. He had also large estates in Arkesden and Elmdon. He married Bridget, daughter of sir John Brograve, knt. of Hertfordshire, by whom he had Thomas, who died before him, John, Charles, George, Robert, and five daughters. He was succeeded, on his decease, by his eldest surviving son, sir John Meade, knt., who by Katharine, his lady, had Thomas, his successor, and two daughters. Thomas Meade, esq. married Margaret, only daughter and heiress of — Debney, of Norfolk, by whom he had nine children: his successor was John, his eldest son, who by his wife Jane, daughter of William Wardour, esq. had John, who died an infant; Jane, married to John Whaley, merchant, of London; and Margaret, the wife of William Pyches, of Crishall.

houses are in Elmdon. It was given to Tiltey abbey in 1406; and on the dissolution of that house was granted to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk; sir Giles Paulet was the proprietor of this estate in 1565; succeeded by his son William Paulet, esq. in 1580. It afterwards passed to Hugh Bonfoy, esq.; to Robert King, by marriage; to Hugh King his son; of whom it was purchased by John Hatchet, esq., succeeded by his grandson of the same name, and by — Forbes, esq.

The church, dedicated to St. Dunstan, is a low ancient building, in good repair, very near the manor-house.* Church.

The rectory belonged to the abbey of Lesnes in Kent, till the dissolution; it has since been in the possession of Thomas Crawley, esq. of the Meade family; and successively of the proprietors of the hall estate.

In 1821, this parish contained sixty-seven, and in 1831, fifty-four inhabitants.

LITTLEBURY.

Littlebury is surrounded by Strethall, Saffron Walden, and the Wendons. The village is on the Newmarket road: it is pleasantly situated, and distant from London forty-two miles. Littlebury

In the ninth century, during the reign of king Edgar, this parish belonged to a religious house in the isle of Ely, which contained eight priests, with their wives and children: but in 970, Ethelwold, bishop of Winchester, having purchased the island of king Edgar, turned out the priests and their wives and children, and put in an abbot and monks; and Leofwin, the fifth abbot, with the consent of king Canute, conditioned with the holders of the estates and lordships belonging to the monastery, that they should supply maintenance to the household for the whole year, toward which Littlebury had to find provisions for two weeks. Edward the confessor, grandson to Edgar, confirmed to them this possession, with several other estates, which they retained till the dissolution of the house in 1539. There are three manors in this parish.

In the reign of Henry the second the manor of Littlebury was holden under Nigel, bishop of Ely, by Ralph de Berners; and also by another of the same name in 1210, when it was said to be in Strethall, because that was anciently a berewick or hamlet to this parish. This manor remained in possession of the ecclesiastical establishment of Ely till the dissolution, and afterwards was retained by the crown, till it was granted, in 1600, by queen Elizabeth, together with the manor of Hadstock, to Thomas Sutton, esq. the munificent founder of the charter-house; who bequeathed

Manor of
Littlebury

* In the chancel there are several inscriptions to the memory of individuals of the Meade family, and on a tombstone in the church, a figure of a man cut in brass has on a label, "Jesus, son of God, have mercy upon me!" and by his side the figure of a woman with a label, on which is inscribed, "St. Mary, pray for us."

BOOK II. them by will, in 1611, to Thomas, earl of Suffolk, on condition that ten thousand pounds should be paid within one year after his decease to his executors. After the death of the tenth earl, in 1745, Littlebury was apportioned to the earl of Bristol, under the partition deed of the estates of James the third earl of Suffolk; and was sold by his descendant, the present marquis of Bristol, to the late lord Braybrooke.

Bourdeux The manor of Bourdeux is not mentioned in records before the year 1541, when it was granted, with a portion of the tithes of Littlebury, to the dean and chapter of the cathedral of Ely, under whom it is held by lord Braybrooke.

Catmere Hall. Catmere Hall, formerly called Gatmere, was near Catmere End and Littlebury Green: it was a large ancient building, surrounded by a double moat, the site of which is yet evidently distinguishable, in a field about two miles distant from Littlebury Street: it once formed part of the chief manor, and is supposed to have been what in Domesday was entered as a berewic, and named Haidene, as lying towards Heydon, or considered to have belonged to that parish: in the time of king Henry the second, it was holden under Nigel, bishop of Ely, as one knight's fee, by William Peregrina: in 1210, by Henry Pelovino: by sir John de Neville, of Raby, in 1388: the lady Elizabeth, daughter of William lord Latimer, re-married to sir Robert de Willoughby, held it in dower till her decease in 1395; and her son John Neville, lord Latimer, dying without issue, this estate descended to Ralph Neville, earl of Westmoreland, the son of her first husband, by his first lady: on his decease in 1425, it passed to Ralph, his grandson, to whom the earldom of Westmoreland also descended. The Neville family having strongly supported the Lancastrian interest,* renders the conjecture probable, that on the accession of Edward the fourth to the crown, this estate was forfeited. It was granted, by king Henry the eighth, to John Gate, esq. in 1543, with a water-mill, a messuage, and the rectory of Littlebury.

Littlebury Green. Chapel Green. Littlebury Green, a straggling hamlet, rather more than a mile west-south-west from the church, is sometimes named Stretley Green, in old deeds; from which may be inferred the existence of a Roman road passing this place, and of which traces remain; and about half a mile farther, the site of an ancient chapel is still known by the name of Chapel Green.

Church. The church (which is within the area of a Roman encampment) is a plain building, of considerable antiquity, dedicated to the Holy Trinity: it has side aisles, a nave and chancel, with a square tower, containing five bells.† The rectory is a sinecure,

* Sir John Neville was slain at Towton, on the 29th of March 1461, fighting for Henry the sixth; and Richard Neville, earl of Warwick, was killed at Barnet Field, on the 14th of April, 1471, fighting against Edward the fourth.

† The following inscription was formerly in the south aisle of Littlebury church:—"Hic jacet Jacobus Edwards, quondam *satelles* de Hadstock et Hadham, tunc hujus villæ, qui omni morum probitate hoc munus gessit et candidissimo favore domini Redman, Eliensis episcopi, qui hoc sumptus est officio, tandem fatali peste pie expirans vii calendas Octobris, anno gra. 1522." English: "Here lies James

in the gift of the bishop of Ely; the vicarage in the gift of the rector. Bishop Wren left thirty pounds a year, payable out of the impropriate tithes for the augmentation of the vicarage.* The great and small tithes were commuted for land when the parish was enclosed, and the rectorial or parsonage farm is held under a lease for lives by lord Braybrooke.

Mr. Henry Winstanley, the architect, was a resident at Littlebury, where he erected a curious house, long since pulled down: he was "clerk of his majesty's works at Newmarket, and at Audley End," under Charles the second and his successors: he published twenty-one plans, views, and elevations of Audley End, now become rare, and affording a curious and interesting representation of a magnificent mansion, whose character and extent would otherwise have been forgotten. On the large and dangerous rock near the entrance of Hamoaze Bay, called the Eddystone, Mr. Winstanley undertook to build a light-house, for the guidance of mariners, which he finished with great art, and much to the satisfaction of his employers. Mr. Winstanley frequently visited and strengthened his work, and was so confident of its firmness and stability, that he had been heard to express a wish to be within it whenever an extraordinary storm should happen; and, in the dreadful tempest of November 27, 1703, his wish was unfortunately gratified, when he would gladly have been on shore, making signals for assistance, but no boat durst go off to him; and, in the morning, when the storm had ceased, nothing appeared but the bare rock, the light-house having been carried away, with the architect, and all who were with him. Previous to this melancholy event, Mr. Winstanley being a prisoner in France, was offered a

Mr. Winstanley.

Edwards, formerly bailiff of Hadstock and Hadham, then of this village, who filled this office with the greatest integrity, and fullest esteem of his lord, Redman bishop of Ely, who had procured it for him: a fatal plague put an end to his life on the seventh day of October, in the year of grace 1522." And on a brass plate in the chancel was the following: "Here lieth the body of Jane, the wyfe of Henrye Bradburyc, gent. daughter of one Eyles Poulton, of Dashboroughe, in the countie of Northampton, gent. who in her lyfe not onlye lyved vertuouslye, but finished her daies with faith in Christ. She died in August 1578." There are also inscriptions to the memory of Thomas Byrd, gent. of Littlebury, who died in 1630; William Byrd, LL.D. of London, in 1639; Thomas Byrd, of Littlebury, in 1640; Ann, wife of Thomas Byrd, in 1624; John Wale, in 1631, and Mary his wife, in 1635; and Mary, her daughter, in 1759.

Charities:—There is an almshouse in the street near the church, without endowment, and a room over it, used for a free-school, with sixty pounds a year endowment, from lands and tenements in and near the town; there is also a good house for the master. There is no record of the institution of this charity, but it is supposed to have been founded by Thomas Sutton. Lord Braybrooke, as lord of the manor, appoints the schoolmaster, and is visitor of the school.

In 1584, Henry Hervey, LL.D. gave an annuity of six pounds, to be divided equally between the poor of Littlebury and Bishops Stortford, payable by the master and fellows of Trinity Hall, in Cambridge. Twenty shillings yearly, called clerk's gift, payable out of a farm near Littlebury Green, is distributed in money to the poor. There also belongs to the poor, an annual gift of three pounds, left by Dr. Covel, late rector of this parish; and the interest of fifty pounds, the remaining part of one hundred pounds, given by Thomas Sutton, esq.

* Bishop Kennet's Case of Impropriations, &c. p. 257.

BOOK II. liberal salary by the French king to remain in that country, which he refused. He invented the celebrated water-works in Hyde-park.

Littlebury parish, in 1821, contained seven hundred and sixty-six, and, in 1831, eight hundred and seventy-five inhabitants.

STRETHALL.

Strethall. This small parish in length is two, and in breadth not quite one mile; extending from Littlebury to Elmdon north-westward, and northward to the extremity of the hundred, occupying a pleasant part of the country, on high ground: the village is small, distant from Saffron Walden four, and from London forty-six miles. In records and deeds the name is Strahall, Strathala, Strattehalle, Stratlait, and Strethall.

At the general survey, and previous to that period, Strethall was a hamlet or berewick to Littlebury, and holden of the monastery of Ely, by William and Elwin, two freemen;* and afterwards by Hugh, supposed to be Hugh de Berners, who came into England at the time of the conquest. Ralph de Berners was his successor in 1210, and held two knights' fees here of the bishop of Ely; of this family there succeeded here, John in 1252, and Ralph in 1262.

Manor of Strethall.

There is only one manor; the mansion-house is near the church, from which the prospect over the country is of the computed extent of thirty miles, comprehending within the range of its wide perspective the cities of Cambridge and Ely, and the town of Swaffham.

In 1298, Ralph le Tibetott held this manor of the bishop of Ely, by the service of two knights' fees, and was succeeded by his son Payne: in 1362, John Oxney and others, trustees, released the manor and advowson of the church to John, son of John de Bayley, for his life, with appurtenances in Elmdon and Walden; except two natives of the said manor, John, son of William, and John, son of Henry in the Hale, with their children born or to be hereafter born. Adam Peche was lord of this manor in 1383 and 1392; John Broke in 1398, and till 1400; and, in 1433, it was granted, by sir John Kyghley and others, to William Bredwardyn and Margaret his wife, for their lives; the reversion being in Thomas Cawndishe, son and heir of John Cawndishe, citizen of London: William Cawndishe was his successor, as was afterwards Augustine; George, brother of Thomas, being the next heir. In the registry the family name is written Cavendish, in 1460. In 1467 to 1486, the manor was in the possession of John Leventhorp, esq. and of John Gardyner in 1504, who died here in 1508; Henry was his son.

Thomas Crawley, esq. of Wendon Loughts, held Strethall and other large possessions in the Chesterfords and in Littlebury, of the bishop of Ely: Anne, his great

* Littlebury Green is in old deeds called Stretley Green, from the street or military way which passes here toward the Roman camp; both Strethall and Littlebury belonged to the monastery of Ely, and were called the lands of St. Etheldred, or Audry.

grand-daughter, was his heiress; and it was in the possession of Thomas Crawley in 1573. CHAP. VII.

Robert, son of Edward Newport, of the ancient family of the Newports, of Pelham Brent, and Pelham Furneux, in Hertfordshire, had this estate in 1635. Robert Newport, of Arcole, in Shropshire, was the first that settled here: he married — Green, of Sandonbury, in Hertfordshire, and had by her John and George. John Newport, by his wife Margery, daughter of Robert Newport, esq. of Pelham Furneux, widow of — Hanchet, had Robert, and three other sons, and a daughter. Robert Newport succeeded his father on his decease in 1553, and marrying Jane, daughter of sir — Barrington, knt. widow of — Lucy, had Edward, John, and three daughters. Edward Newport, son and heir of Robert, was of Pelham Brent, and Sandon; and dying in 1624, left seven sons and six daughters: of the sons, four went out in the service of king Charles the first, and kept the field to the last; and the consequent plundering and confiscations reduced this estate, and caused it to be sold in successive portions. Robert Newport had possession in 1669, and his successor, Leonard Newport, esq. sold Strethall to the munificent Edward Colston, esq. of Bristol, who, having a mortgage upon it, foreclosed the equity of redemption. Mr. Colston died in 1721. The manor afterwards became the property of Robert Carr, esq. of Isleworth, in Middlesex, who, on his decease, left several children and a widow. The parish is divided into about four farms. Newport family.

The church is of stone, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. Church.

In 1515, a quit-rent of five pounds six shillings and eight pence, payable out of tenements in Bucklersbury and Budge-row, was given to the living of this church, which, in 1723, was augmented by the donation of two hundred pounds from Edward Colston and Robert Carr, esqs. to which was added the sum of two hundred pounds from queen Anne's bounty.*

In 1821, this parish contained fifty-four, and, in 1831, forty-one inhabitants.

* Inscriptions:—In the chancel, on a brass plate: "Pray for the soules of John Gardynere, gentelman, heir buried, sometime lord of this manor and patroⁿ of this church; and of Johane, sometime his wife, daughter of Henry Wodecock, of London, gentelman, and Henry their son; which John lieth buried in the church of St. Mary Wolnoth, Lombard-street, London; and the said Henry their son lieth buried in the church of Sevenoke, in Kent; and the said John died at this manor at midnight, between the xxxth and the xxxist day of August, in the year of our Lord God 1508: to all which souls Jesu be merciful. Amen." Inscriptions.

There are other ancient inscriptions, among which is the following: "Here lieth maister Thomas Abbot, late pson here, whiche decessed viii October, 1539, on whose soule Jesu have mercy."

The opposite side of the same plate bears the following:—

"Orate Margaretam Sidey, modo vermibus escam.

Quondam formosam mulierem religiosam.

Hic contemplantes, quales eritis memorantes.

Posuite solio deum; cœlis jacet mihi mansio."

"Pray for Margaret Sidey, now the food for worms, formerly a beautiful and religious woman. Ye who behold this, think what ye shall be. God sits upon his throne. My abode is in heaven."

BOOK II.

ELMDON.

Elmdon.

This parish lies westward from Strethall, and extends to Heydon, on the borders of Cambridgeshire: in circumference it is about nine miles; it occupies a portion of the chalk district; and the village, which is small, is on the sides of two of the numerous hills by which this part of the country is distinguished: from Saffron Walden it is distant four, and from London forty-two miles.

Two freemen, named Almar and Brietulf, held part of this parish in the time of Edward the confessor, and were succeeded by Ingelric. Eustace, earl of Boulogne, was the possessor at the time of the survey, and his under tenant was Roger de Sumeri; it consequently formed part of the honour of Boulogne, belonging to which, in 1210, there were holden here by Milo de Sumeri, the grandson of Roger, Roger de Neville, and Serlo de Mercy, each one knight's fee; and Leticia de Pinkeni half a fee. In the records, six or more manors are mentioned; Elmdon, Dagworths, Mounteneys, Pigots, Leebury, Cocksales, which has some lands here, but more in Arkesden, and Crawleybury, more properly placed in Christhall; the rectory or parsonage was likewise a manor: but the courts having been discontinued, none of these have retained their manorial characters, except Elmdon and Leebury, of which the first has absorbed the distinctions of Dagworths, Mounteneys, and Pigots, taken from different owners.

Elmdon-
bury Hall,
Dag-
worths,
and
Moun-
teneys.

Elmdonbury, the chief manor-house, is a good old building, near the church. This manor is what in records has been named Dagworth and Mounteneys, being what Roger de Sumeri, and Milo his grandson, held: they were a branch of the noble family of this name, barons of the realm in the reign of king Stephen.

John de Dagworth, who died in 1332, had possessions here, as had Nicholas his son; and Thomasine, wife of sir John de Dagworth, knt., in 1362. Mounteneys was undoubtedly what Robert de Mounteney held here in 1286; Ernulph was his son and heir; and the same possession was holden by Ranulph de Montchensy in 1310, as the eighth part of the manor of Elmdon; John de Montchensy was his son. In 1321, Nicholas de Segrave died in possession of this estate, leaving Maud his daughter his heiress, who was married to Edmund de Bohun. By the marriage of Thomasine, daughter and heiress of sir John de Dagworth, to William de Furnival, most of these manors were conveyed to that noble family; he died in 1383, leaving Joane his heiress, married to Thomas de Neville, brother of Ralph, lord Neville, first earl of Westmoreland; who on that account was summoned to parliament by the title of lord Furnival. The offspring from this marriage was Maud, married to John Talbot, the renowned earl of Shrewsbury: and Joane, married to Hamo Belknap. The name of Thomas Knivet, esq. of Stanway, occurs in a deed of the date of 1430, for the conveyance of this manor to Richard Fox, esq. and others; afterwards these manors were in the families of Langley, Marshall, Cutts, and Meade: and being sold by the co-heiresses

of sir Thomas Meade, after his decease in 1678, were purchased by John Wilkes, esq. and belong to his descendant John Wilkes, esq. of Wendon Loughts.

CHAP.
VII.

*The mansion-house of the manor of Leebury is rather more than a mile distant from the church, on an eminence, by the road from this parish to Littlebury-green: it was named a Lea in the time of Edward the confessor, being at that time in possession of a freeman named Briculf; and with the rest of the parish passed to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, after the conquest. It has successively passed to the families of Philip, Baldock, Belknap, Green, Meade, Hanchet, Fuller, and — Forbes, esq. of Christhall Grange.

Leebury.

The church, which has a nave, side aisles, and chancel, with a tower, containing four bells, is dedicated to St. Nicholas. It belonged to the monastery of St. Thomas the martyr, at Lesnes, in Kent, to which it was given by Robert de Lucy, chief justice of England; and that house, in 1424, appropriating the rectorial tithes to itself, ordained and endowed a vicarage here, of which it continued patron till the dissolution in 1525, when it was granted to cardinal Wolsey; on whose fall it passed to the crown, and was given by Henry the eighth to the convent of Sheen, in Surrey, of which it was holden, under a lease, by Thomas Crawley, esq., who also retained this possession under Edward the sixth. In 1588, it belonged to Thomas Meade, sergeant-at-law; from whom it passed to the family of Bendish; and by purchase to Nicholas Penning, merchant; and successively became the property of John Hanchet, esq. of Christhall Grange, of Richard Chamberlain, esq., and, in 1739, was purchased by Nathaniel Wilkes, esq.*

Church.

In 1821, the parish of Elmdon contained six hundred and one, and in 1831, six hundred and ninety-seven inhabitants.

* Inscriptions:—An ancient and magnificent monument in the chancel for Thomas Meade, esq. justice of the King's Bench, raised to his memory by his most faithful wife Joan, informs us that he died in May 1585. A decayed monument, in the south chancel, bears the following, in old English characters:

Inscriptions.

“Justarum memoriæ in manu Dei sunt; non tangent eos tormentum melitæ.

“Quem premit iste lapis Crawleum, quis fuit ille,
Armiger in bello, pace togatus erat,
Ux vixit sancte vitæ monumenta reliquit
Multa, quid et multis (tumba) referre potes,

Dilexit patriam, patrii quis testis amoris,
Hæc scholæ permagnis sumptibus orta suis,
Vera precor memoras verissimo pro quibus ecce
Impressum æterno magno nomen habet.”

English: “The memory of the just is in the hand of God; malice shall never torment them. The name of him whom this stone covers was Crawley; in war he bore arms; in peace he was a lawyer: he left many monuments of his holy life; and, what even his tomb can relate, he loved his country: that he did so this school, which was built at his very great expense, is witness. In memory of these things, behold! his name is inscribed in everlasting marble. Thomas Crawley, esquier, deceased the xxx daye of September, An. 1559.” Other plates bear effigies of four boys and eight girls: and the arms of Crawley.

Charities:—In 1559 a school was founded here by Thomas Crawley, esq., which he endowed with fourteen pounds per annum. The master to be a priest, and to teach, gratis, grammar and good manners.

Charities.

An annuity of twenty shillings, the gift of Mrs. Martin of Christhall, is distributed to the poor at Easter.

BOOK II.

HEYDON, OR HAYDON.

Heydon.

From Elmdon, the parish of Heydon extends to the borders of the counties of Cambridge and Hertford, forming the north-western extremity of Essex. It is computed to be in length a mile and a half, and in breadth three quarters of a mile: distant from Saffron Walden five, and from London forty-three miles.

The lands of this parish are among the most uneven and highest in the county: the soil in some places thin on chalk, but at the Grange a stratum of sand and gravel commences. The name, from the Saxon Heah, high, and dun, a hill, is in records written Haidon, Heidone, Haidena, and Eydene. In the Saxon times this parish belonged to Alwin, and at the survey was in possession of Robert, the son of Roscelin.

Heydon-bury.

The chief manor-house is on an eminence, not far distant north-westward from the church: the wide extended prospect from this station includes the minster, or cathedral church of Ely, distant about thirty miles. Heydonbury was originally holden by the grand sergeancy of attendance on the kings of England at their coronation, with a bason and towel, to wash the king's hands before dinner, and to have the bason for their feet. The manor was anciently in two portions; one of the lords holding the bason, the other the towel.

Picot family.

The Picot family were possessed of this estate from the time of king Henry the second, to that of the second Edward; they were originally of Ratcliffe, in Nottinghamshire, which lordship, and that of Kingston, adjoining to it, they held, in the time of king Henry the first, by the sergeancy of keeping hawks for him. In the reign of king John, Thomas, son and heir of Peter Picot, was commonly styled Thomas de Hedon, from having his residence occasionally at Heydon; sir Peter Picot, his son, died in 1286, holding this manor, in the record named Eyden: John, his son and heir, was also of Heydon, holding by sergeancy: his two sons were John and Peter, who both died without issue; the last of these died in 1313, leaving his two sisters his heiresses. Margery, married to — Senevil, by whom she had a son, named Simon de Senevil; and Isabella Touke.

Soame family.

This estate passed successively from the Senevil family, to those of Seagrove, De Lisle, Wiltshire, Asplond, and Ayleworth; after whom the next succeeding possessor was sir Stephen Soame, knt., citizen and grocer, of London; his ancestor was Thomas Soame, esq. of Beetley, in Norfolk, who marrying Anne, only daughter and heiress of Thomas Knighton, esq. and widow of Richard le Hunt, of Hunt's-hall, in Bradley, had by her fourteen children; of these, Thomas, the eldest son, was of Beetley and Little Bradley; and Stephen, the second son, was the purchaser of this estate; sir Stephen was alderman of London and sheriff in 1589, and lord mayor in 1598. He purchased this and other considerable estates; and on his decease, in 1619, left sir William, his eldest son, who was of Little Thurlow, and whose second son William,

was created a baronet in 1684, with remainder to the heirs male of his uncle Stephen. Sir Stephen Soame, second son of Stephen, uncle of sir William Soame, was seated at Heydonbury, created a knight and made sheriff of Essex in 1621. He married Elizabeth, daughter of sir Thomas Playte, knt., of Soterley, in Suffolk, by whom he had Peter, John, Martha, Mary, married to Edward Fettiplace, esq., and Jane, married to sir Edward Flaxton, of Northamptonshire. Peter, the eldest son and heir, succeeded to the title of baronet, on the decease of his kinsman, sir William Soame, without issue, at Malta, on his embassy to Constantinople. At the coronation of king James the second, he preferred his claim to hold the bason and ewer for one moiety of the manor of Heydon, and for the other moiety to hold the towel, when the king washed his hands before dinner; petitioning either to perform those services in person, or by a convenient deputy; receiving all the fees, profits, and emoluments to the said service belonging. The part of holding the towel was allowed by the commissioners of claims; but that of appointing a deputy, to the king's pleasure, who appointed Anthony, earl of Kent, to perform that office in right of the said Peter: the rest of the claim was not allowed. Sir Peter married Susan, daughter of Ralph Freeman, esq., by whom he had Peter, Freeman, Susan, married to sir Cane James, bart. of Christhall, but who died in 1680, only seventeen years of age; and Elizabeth. Sir Peter Soame, the eldest son and heir, married Jane, daughter and heiress of George Chute, esq. of Stockwell, in Surrey, and had by her his only son, sir Peter Soame, bart., who married one of the daughters of colonel Richard Philips, of Stanwell, in Middlesex, by whom he had his son Peter. The claim at the coronation of king George the second and third was allowed as to the towel only; and the lord of the manor of Heydon attended with the towel, and performed his service at the coronation of George the fourth, July 19, 1821.

The old manor-house was some time ago pulled down, and a capital mansion erected.*

An estate is mentioned in the records, in 1526, as the manor in Heydon, with appertenances called Buckingham's lands, at that time granted by king Henry the eighth to Thomas Wolfe: it was also granted by the same monarch to John Ashton, in 1537; and has since been incorporated into other estates.

Heydon Grange is two miles from the church, extending to the borders of Cambridgeshire northward.†

The church, dedicated to the Holy Trinity, has a nave, north and south aisles, and

* Arms of Soame: Gules, a chevron between three mullets, or. They quarter the arms of Knighton, Underhill, Caldebeck, Hinckley, Notbeam, and Peché.

† In the street opposite the church there is a building supported by stone pillars: it seems to be very ancient, and though apparently intended for a market-house, it is not known to have been appropriated to that or any other purpose in particular.

Buckingham's.

Heydon Grange.

Church.

BOOK II. chancel, the whole building in good repair, leaded and embattled: in the chancel, a chapel is the burial-place of the Soame family. The steeple contains five bells.* The rectory was given to the abbot and convent of Walden, by Thomas Picot, and again reverting to that family, in the time of Edward the first, has since continued appendant to the manor.†

This parish, in 1821, contained two hundred and seventy-two, and in 1831, two hundred and fifty-nine inhabitants.

CHRISTHALL, OR CRISHALL.

Christhall The high lands of this parish are pleasantly situated, but not very productive; it extends southward from Heydon; is in length five, and in breadth, in some places one, in others one mile and a half: from Saffron Walden distant three, and from London thirty-six miles. The name, of unknown derivation, is in records written Christshall, Chrishall, Cristehale, Cristesshale, Christley-hall, and Carshall.

The recorded owners here, in the Saxon times, were Inguar, and Leffi, a freeman; and at the survey, they were holden by Eustace, earl of Boulogne, and Ingelric; by Robert de Sumeri, under Eustace; and by Robert de Todenei, being all that this Robert had in Essex. There were then, as at present, three manors.

**Christ-
hall-bury.** The lands named Christhall-bury are what belonged to Eustace and Ingelric; and the mansion is not far from the church, in a southerly direction. Maud, grand-daughter and heiress to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, conveyed this, with other great estates, by marriage, to king Stephen; who gave it to his natural son William, by whom it was granted to Richard de Lucy, who held it as one of the four knights' fees which he had in Essex: and on the death of his two sons, Geoffrey and Herbert, without issue, it became the inheritance of his eldest daughter Maud, married first to Walter Fitz-Robert, father of Robert Fitz-Walter; and secondly, to Richard de Rivers: she died in 1242, and the family of Rivers retained possession during several descents, their under tenants being successively Leticia, Henry, and Robert de Pinkeney, from 1253 to 1321, when it was holden under John de Rivers, by Nicholas de Segrave; and in 1339, the estate was, by sir John de Rivers, conveyed to sir John de Sutton, of Wivenhoe, from whom it passed in 1349, to Ralph, lord Stafford, under whom it was holden in 1353 to 1358, by sir William de la Pole, and Margaret his wife;

**Inscrip-
tion.** * Inscriptions:—In the chancel there is an epitaph for John, son of sir Stephen Soame, knt., who died March 14, 1658.—Thomas, the son of Thomas and Ann Thackeray, who died in 1734.—Hugh, son of the hon. and rev. Dr. Boscawen, who died in 1756.—There are several ancient tombs with effigies, but the inscriptions have been taken away.

Charity. † Charity:—Dr. Davies, rector of this parish, founded a school near the church for the education of twenty children, and endowed it with ten pounds for ever; but by some mischance the endowment has been reduced to four pounds twelve shillings.

whose heirs held it under Thomas, earl of Stafford, in 1392. It remained in this noble family, successively in the possession of William, brother of Thomas, and Edmund, earls of Stafford: of Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham; and his grandson Henry: after whom sir John Harpenden succeeded to the possession of it; from whom it was conveyed to Thomas Brooke: and in 1544 it was conveyed, by George Brooke, lord Cobham, and Anne his wife, to Thomas Crawley, esq., who, on his decease in 1558, left Anne, his only daughter, his heiress. Christhall belonged to sir Edward Penruddock, at the time of his decease, in 1612, succeeded by John, sir Thomas, and John Penruddock, esq. of Compton Chamberlain, in Wiltshire, who sold it to John James, esq., knighted in 1655. Sir John James built the family mansion of Christhall.

The park, containing more than three hundred acres, was afterwards converted into a wood. Sir John James* of Christhall, dying unmarried, in 1672, left this estate to his nephew, Mr. James Cane, son of his sister Emlin,† who, in 1680, was created a baronet, and took the name of sir Cane James. He married, first, Susan, daughter of sir Peter Soame, bart. of Heydon, who dying five months after her marriage, sir Cane married, secondly, Anne, daughter of Francis Phillips, esq. of the Inner Temple, and had by her several sons, most of whom died young; and two daughters. He died at St. Edmondsbury in 1736: sir John James, his son and successor, died in 1741. The estate afterwards became the property of the Brand family, of Hide-hall.

James
family.

Toward the close of the Saxon era, a proprietor, named Leffi, had the estate of Crawleybury, which, at the survey, was holden by Roger de Sumeri, under Eustace, earl of Boulogne, at that time named Crawlæa. The manor-house was at a place named Crowley-end. It was in the possession of Robert Pynkeny in 1295, whose heir was his brother Henry. Sir William Furnival, at the time of his decease, in 1382, held this manor of John Audin, lord of Radwinter, by the service of one pair of gilt spurs, of the value of twelve pence. It was afterwards given to St. George the martyr, in the cathedral of Hereford: and in 1548 was granted by Edward the sixth, to Thomas Crawley, esq., who, on his decease in 1559, left his only daughter, Anne, his heiress, at that time only six years of age. In 1585, John Bendish, esq. of Steeple Bumsted, died in possession of this estate; in which family it remained, till on the decease of sir Henry Bendish, in 1717, it passed

Crawley-
bury.

* The family of James was formerly surnamed Hæstrecht, from a place near Geuda, in Holland; and the ancestor of those of Christhall, was James von Hawstert, who coming into England about the time of king Henry the eighth, omitted his foreign surname; Roger James was his second son, and was of London: his son and heir of the same name possessed Uppminster-hall; whose brothers were of Farnham, and another at Manuden. Arms of James: Argent, a chevron, sable, between three fers de moulins transverse, of the second.

† She was married to James Cane, son of James Cane, citizen and vintner, of London.

BOOK II. to sir Adam Brown, who sold it to James Walsingham, esq. of Little Chesterford, whose co-heirs were the right hon. lord Montacute, with the lady Osborn, and Mrs. Villiers, his nieces; and lady Osborn gave her part to the hon. Mr. Boyle, speaker of the Irish house of Commons.

Cheswick-
hall.

The ancient manor-house of Cheswick Hall, also named Flanders, is on an eminence, three quarters of a mile from the church. A freeman held this estate in the time of Edward the confessor; and at the survey it was in the possession of Robert de Todenei, whose estates in other counties, together with this one in Essex, amounted to eighty lordships. He built Belvoir castle, in Lincolnshire; and Robert Roos, lord of Hamlake, marrying Isabella, daughter and heiress of William de Albini, lord of that castle, in the time of Henry the third, had with her this manor, which was afterwards holden of Belvoir castle. Richard de Kelsal, in 1359, died holding this manor of lord de Roos, as of his castle of Belvoir, by the service of three arrows of the price of sixpence yearly. Sir John Helyon, of Bumsted Helyon, who held this estate in 1449, had two daughters, his co-heiresses: Philippa, married to sir Thomas Montgomery, of Faulkbourn-hall; and Isabel, married to Humphrey Tyrell, esq. of Warley, son of sir John Tyrell, of Herons. Their only daughter and heiress, by marriage, conveyed this with other estates to sir Roger Wentworth, of Codham-hall, in Wethersfield; whose second son, Henry, succeeded to this estate in 1529; which, in 1558, belonged to John Wentworth, esq. and to George Nicholls, and Joan his wife, in 1586. It was in the possession of Robert Bradley, esq. in 1611: and in 1635 had become the property of John Rowley, of Saffron Walden; Michael and John Rowley were his sons, the former of whom was father of John Rowley, who married Margaret, daughter of William Willymot, of Leebury, in Elmdon, by whom he had his son and heir, John Rowley, attorney-at-law, of Walden: who married Alice, daughter of Mr. Thomas Arnold, by whom he had his son John Rowley, esq. principal of Bernard's-inn, in London, in 1734; and he sold this estate to Nathaniel Wilkes, esq., in whose family it has continued to the present time.

Christhall
Grange.

The manor of Christhall Grange is two miles and a half from the church, and the mansion-house is in a low situation, on the northern extremity of the county, joining to Cambridgeshire. It belonged to Tiltey abbey, under whom it was farmed by John Thake, at the time of the suppression. In 1554 it was granted by king Henry the eighth to Edward Elrington and Humphrey Metcalf, who, in 1546, conveyed it to Edward Meade, esq., on whose decease, in 1577, he was succeeded by his son John, and by Sir Thomas Meade, knt., who died in 1617, leaving his son and heir John Meade. It afterwards belonged to John Smith, esq. of Upton, who sold it to John Hanchet, esq. of Heydon.* The estate afterwards became the property of — Forbes, esq.,

* Of an ancient family in Hertfordshire: William Hanchet, esq. purchased Letchworth, the family residence; and his son Thomas was one of the eighty gentlemen of that county, in the time of Henry the

and passed to the noble family of Brand, lord Dacre. This estate contains about nine hundred acres.

C H A P.
VII.

•The church has a nave, aisles, and chancel, with a square stone tower, containing four bells, the whole embattled, and having a handsome spire above the tower. It is dedicated to the Virgin Mary. This church having from a remote period belonged to the abbey of Westminster, was also retained by it when it was made a bishopric; but afterwards its jurisdiction, as to matters ecclesiastical, was given by Edward the sixth to Ridley, bishop of London in 1550; and the patronage and advowson of the vicarage was granted to the bishop of London, by queen Mary, in 1553; but the rectorial, or great tithes, were granted to the dean and chapter of Westminster, by queen Elizabeth, in 1558.*

Church.

In 1720, the vicarage was augmented by bishop Robinson with the gift of two hundred pounds, to which was added the same sum from queen Anne's bounty.

In 1821, this parish contained four hundred and eleven, and in 1831, four hundred and eighty-seven inhabitants.

CHISHALL.

A district at the extremity of the hundred and county, divided into two parishes, bears the names of Chishall, Great and Little; in Domesday, written Cishel. A watercourse, named Cumberton, divides these parishes from Barley, in Hertfordshire; and the division between Mercia and the kingdom of the East Saxons, is supposed to

Chishall.

sixth, who could support an annual expenditure of ten pounds, equal to above as many hundred at the present time. Samuel Hanchet of Arkesden, married Joan, daughter of Mr. Creed of Icaldon, in Cambridgeshire; his son and heir was John Hanchet, esq., who married Mary, daughter of Mr. John Pauley, of St. Malyn, in Cornwall; he died in 1724, leaving John his son, the father of John, the purchaser of this estate.

Arms of Hanchet: Sable, three dexter hands erect, couped at the wrist, argent, two and one.

* Morant, vol. ii. p. 605.

Inscriptions:—An elegant monument in the chancel bears a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation: "Near this marble rests, waiting for a happy resurrection, sir John James, knt. descended from an ancient family of that name, in the county of Kent: to his God he was a devout servant; to his king, even in adversity, a truly faithful subject; to his relatives very beneficent; a true friend to his friends; to all men courteous, and strictly just; and a man of singular dexterity in the dispatch of business. He was divested of mortality on the 17th of February, in the year of our Lord 1676, of his age 72. Cane James, whom he left heir of his whole estate, in memory of his beloved uncle, and as a testimony of his own gratitude, caused this monument to be erected."

Inscriptions.

On the north wall, on a plain marble, is a Latin inscription, to the memory of Cane James, and Anne his wife; their son caused this monument to be erected, 1739.

There are some remains of two very ancient monuments in the south aisle, but no inscription: on one of them, an effigy of a woman in brass is said to represent Mrs. Lettice Martin, to whom the poor are indebted for numerous charities, of which was a benefaction of various sums of money from lands in Christhall, left in trustees, to be given annually to various parishes, of which the poor of Christhall was to receive twenty shillings; and Christhall with Wendon to receive the profits of the fall of trees.

BOOK II. have been by an embankment, part of which yet remains near Shaftnoe-bridge, and which is understood to have passed through Hertfordshire to Middlesex: the memory of this mound is traditionally preserved at Cheshunt, though no vestige of it remains for many miles: the land above the bank in the same fields is inherited by the eldest brother; that below the bank descends by borough-English to the youngest. This custom is frequent on the east side in Hertfordshire, not on the opposite or Mercian side.* The village is small, on a high hill, with an open country toward the north and north-west; the prospect extending above thirty miles: the country southward is in a good state of cultivation, and distinguished by woodland scenery. Distant about forty-two miles from London.

In the reign of Edward the confessor, the lands of Great Chishall belonged to six freemen, one of whom was named Ulfith; and to Edric, and Lewin; at the survey they had been granted by the Conqueror to Geoffrey de Magnaville, and Roger Otburville. There have been five manors, or reputed manors, in this parish.

Cardons,
or Basset's
Hall.

The families of Cardon and Basset gave occasion for the names applied to a manor in this parish, which was also named Wandens; it was holden in 1372 by William Cardon, under Geoffrey de Magnaville; and under Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex, by the heirs of John Depham, John Outlaw, Nicholas Jobyn, with several others; and also the abbots of Walden and Tiltey: it consisted of two knights' fees. Toward the close of the reign of king Henry the seventh, it belonged to John Basset; Gregory, his son and heir, married Margaret, daughter of Robert Forster, esq. of Birch, by whom he had Dorothy, his only daughter and heiress, whose wardship, after his decease, was procured by Thomas Bonham, esq. of Kent, who by artifice had her married to his son Robert Bonham, esq., who had by her Jerome and Charles, and two daughters, and dying before his wife, she was married to Anthony Maxey, esq. of Great Saling Hall, by whom she had several sons and daughters: on her decease, she settled her estate on the eldest of these sons, disinheriting her son Jerome Bonham, who died in 1621. In 1615, John Bownest died in possession of this estate, and his son Thomas sold it to — Allen, of Great Hadham, and from his son William it was conveyed to John Hanchet, esq. of Christhall Grange.

Belknaps.

A manor named Belknaps was also part of the Magnaville lordship, in the possession of Milo de Somery, in the reign of king John; it afterwards was holden by — Belknap; and in the time of Edward the third, by John de Benington, and afterwards by his heirs; from whom it passed to Thomas Pakeman.

Tewes, or
Lisles.

A manor named Tewes and Lisles, formerly belonging to John de Lisle, was holden of the honour of Lisle, by John Tawe, esq. of Coln-Engaine: it was afterwards purchased by Richard Fox, and George Langham.

* Salmon's History of Essex, p. 137; and the Saxon Chronicle.

A manor, extending into Great and Little Chishall, belonging to Tiltey abbey, was named Friars, and also Chishall Grange. It was granted to Edward Elrington, esq. by king Henry the eighth; and sold in 1546 to Thomas Crawley, esq.: it afterwards belonged to sir Cane James; and to Thomas Brand, esq. of the Hyde, near Ingatestone.

CHAP.
VII.

Friars.

The mansion-house of the manor of Chishall is near the road that passes from Chishall to Arkesden. This estate is what at the survey belonged to Roger de Otburville. It was sold by Martha Higham, widow, to Thomas Cooke, esq. who died in 1584. William Cooke was his son, after whose decease, in 1597, it was sold by his son Thomas, to John Rowley, of Barkway, in Hertfordshire, who held this possession in 1635; which his daughter Mary conveyed, by marriage, to James Goulston, esq. of Widihall, in Hertfordshire: his son and heir Richard, married Margaret, daughter of the right rev. Francis Turner, lord bishop of Ely, by the lady Anne, descended by the father from the family of Horton, by the mother from the Ferrars. His son Francis was his successor. The estate was afterwards purchased by Thomas Brand, esq.*

Chishall
manor.

The church, dedicated to St. Swithin, has a nave, north and south aisles, and a chancel; above the tower, which contains five bells, there is a small spire.† This church, with its appurtenances, was given to the monastery of Walden, by Geoffrey de Mandeville, in 1136; and in 1239, the rectory and manor being appropriated to that house, a vicarage was ordained, the diminutive endowment of which was augmented in 1441. It was granted, after the dissolution, to sir Thomas Audley, who bequeathed it, by will, to Elizabeth, his lady; her second husband was sir George Norton: after her decease it became the property of Thomas, duke of Norfolk, who married lord Audley's daughter and heiress; and Thomas lord Howard, of Walden, and Katharine, his lady, sold this possession to William Cooke, son of Thomas Cooke, of Osborns in this parish; whose son Thomas was his successor; followed by John Cooke, esq., who married Jane, daughter of colonel Richard Goulston, of Widihall, who had four sons and three daughters: he died in 1701; and after the decease of

Church.

* On a farm, called Osborns, in this parish, there is an ancient well, ninety-two yards and a half in depth.

† A mural monument in the chancel bears the following inscription: "Near this place, under the communion table, lieth the body of the honourable John Cooke, esq., who departed this life the 27th of January, 1701. He served as high sheriff of this county of Essex, by the special appointment of king William, of ever-blessed memory, and commanded as colonel of the green regiment of militia, and was also a deputy lieutenant, justice of the peace, and one of the quorum of the said county; who for his integrity, love of justice, and usefulness in every station, lived beloved and died lamented. He left behind him, by his surviving lady, Jane, daughter of colonel Richard Goulston, four sons and three daughters, who, out of gratitude and honour to his dear memory, have erected this monument, though too mean and unworthy of him. His age was 67."

Inscriptions.

Charities:—The rent of five acres of land was left to be distributed to the poor yearly at Christmas, by the churchwardens and overseers.—An annuity of three shillings and four-pence was left to the poor by Mrs. Martin.

Charities.

BOOK II. John Cooke, esq. his third son, the title to the estate was for some time disputed, but ultimately decided in favour of Mr. Richard Cooke, of Chelmsford, a relation of the family; and in 1739, it was sold to Nathaniel Wilkes, esq.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and fifty-three, and in 1831, three hundred and seventy-one inhabitants.

LITTLE CHISHALL.

Little
Chishall.

The lands of this parish lie low, on the border of Hertfordshire, and it contains only a small number of inhabitants: it is distant from Saffron Walden five, and from London forty-two miles.

In the time of Edward the confessor, it belonged to Sired and Godric, two freemen; and after the Conquest, the whole estate was given to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, whose under tenant Wido, son of Toce, left two daughters, Ellen and Alla, his co-heiresses: Ellen had a son named Reginold de Argentine, who in the time of king Stephen, had half of this estate, as had also his son of the same name, in the time of Richard the first; whose son Richard, and Giles his grandson, were his successors.

Alla had the other half of this manor, which she held as the gift of king Henry the second; and it descended to her son Roger, and to Nicholas, son of Roger, her grandson.

The entire manor ultimately belonged to the Argentine family, and was all or part of it holden by John de Swineford, of John Argentine, in 1318, and of his widow in 1332: John was his son and heir. Sir John de Argentine, and John Bataile, held lands here in 1361, supposed to include the whole of the manor; in which year he presented to this church; and the moiety to which the presentation belonged was that which was holden of Giles de Argentine by knights' service; but the result of a trial at law was, that the presentation should belong alternately to each moiety. It cannot be ascertained at what time the undivided possession of this manor became vested in the Ufford family, nor why Edmund de Ufford, who was lord of it in 1375, is named Le Cosyne, unless it were because he was cousin to Robert de Ufford, earl of Suffolk: in 1382, it was determined by a trial at law, that this manor was not to be holden of the Argentine family, but of the king, as of his honour of Hagenet. From the year 1406, when William Effield, by fine, conveyed this manor to sir John Hende, and his lady Elizabeth, in tail, the estate appears to have remained undivided. Sir John died in 1418, John, his son, in 1641, and his mother Elizabeth in 1462, having been married to Ralph Boteler, lord Sudley: * Joan, her grand-daughter, by her son

* This nobleman was actively engaged in affairs of great importance under Henry the sixth; and in the wars in France acquired fame, and riches to a considerable amount; with part of which he built Sudley castle. But, by his attachment to king Henry, incurring the hatred and suspicion of Edward the fourth, that monarch caused him to be arrested and conveyed to London; on which occasion, looking back toward his castle, from one of the hills in its vicinity, he exclaimed, "Sudley castle, thou art the traitor; not I."—*Dugdale's Baronage*, vol. i. p. 598.

John, held this manor at the time of his decease in 1507. Sir William Ayliff held this manor in 1517, followed by his son William: by Thomas Ayliff, esq. who died in 1553, and whose son and successor, William Ayliff, died in 1614, leaving his son of the same name: he was made king's serjeant in 1627. Lucy, countess of Huntingdon, held this possession in 1662; and in 1684, it had become the property of Peter Soame, esq. from whom it has descended to the Soame family, of Heydon. The mansion is a short distance southward from the church, and named Nether or Lower Hall.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a small edifice, rising high, in proportion to its other dimensions; the porch is of free stone; the tower of wood, rising from a foundation of stone. Church.

A very ancient family took their surname from this, or the other parish of Chishall; a distinguished individual of which was John de Chishull, dean of St. Paul's, arch-deacon of London, lord treasurer, keeper of the great seal, lord chancellor, and bishop of London: he died in 1279. A branch of this family was formerly seated at Little Bardfield.

In 1821, this parish contained seventy-one, and, in 1831, one hundred and six inhabitants.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN UTTLESFORD HUNDRED.

R. Rectory. V. Vicarage.
† Discharged from payment of First Fruits. D. Donative.

Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Arkesden, V.	Colchester.	J. S. Griffinhoofe ..	1812	£13 6 8	John Wolfe, Esq.
Birchanger, R. ....	.....	J. C. H. Stokes	1808	9 13 4	New Col. Oxon.
Chesterford, Grt. V. }	.....	Hon. J. H. King. }	1824	† 10 0 0	{ King and Marq. of
Chesterford, Lit. R. }	.....	Ditto ..... }	.....	11 0 0	{ Bristol alternately.
Chishall, Great, V. ....	.....	Robert Fiske	1822	† 10 0 0	J. Wilkes, Esq.
Chishall, Little, R. ....	.....	John Horseman ...	1810	14 10 0	Sir P. Soame, bart.
Christhall, V.	Essex	Butler Berry	1787	13 0 0	Bishop of London.
Depden, R.	Colchester.	W. J. Totton	1796	34 0 0	R. M. F. Chiswell, Esq.
Elmdon, V. ....	.....	Robert Fiske	1814	19 0 0	J. Wilkes, Esq.
Elsenham, V. ....	.....	Thomas Canning ..	1818	11 10 0	Bishop of London.
Haydon, R. ....	.....	Rector of L. Chishall	1810	18 0 0	W. Lit. Chishall, Rect.
Henham, V. ....	.....	George H. Glyn	1826	17 0 0	J. S. Feake & others.
Littlebury, R. ....	.....	J. Sparke	1819	26 13 4	Bishop of Ely.
Littlebury, V. ....	.....	Henry Bull	1813	† 10 2 1	Rector of Littlebury.
Newport, V. ....	.....	Ed. G. Monk	1828	† 9 10 0	Lord Chancellor.
Quendon, R. ....	.....	John Collin .....	.....	† 9 0 0	H. Cranmer, Esq.
Rickling, V. ....	.....	T. G. W. Walker ...	1810	† 10 0 0	Bishop of London.
Stansted Montf. V. ....	.....	J. Torriano	1828	† 13 6 8	E. F. Maitland, Esq.
Strethall, R. ....	.....	W. F. Raymond	1820	† 13 0 0	Lieut.-gen. Raymond.
Takeley, R.	Middlesex.	Ed. Harbin	1804	11 0 0	Bishop of London
Walden, S. V.	Colchester.	Nich. Bull	1804	† 33 6 8	Lord Braybrooke.
Wendon, Great, V. }	.....	{ Edward Rider ...	1814	† 17 0 0	Marquis of Bristol.
Wendon, Little, R. }	.....	Vicar of Elmdon. ..	1814	† 9 10 10	W. Elmdon, Vic.
Wendon Loughts, D. ....	.....	Charles George	1814	11 0 0	Aug. George, Esq.
Wickham Bonh. R. ....	.....	C. A. Campbell	1820	25 0 0	W. Campbell, Esq.
Widdington, R. ....	.....	John Dolingnon ...	1816	12 0 0	R. John Dolingnon.
Wimbish, R.	Middlesex.	John Raymond	1788	8 0 0	Rect. of Wimbish.
Wimbish, V.	Middlesex.	John Raymond	1788	8 0 0	Rect. of Wimbish.

CHAPTER VIII.

THE HALF HUNDRED OF CLAVERING.

Clavering
half hun-
dred.

THIS half hundred forms the north-western extremity of the county, being a narrow tract of land, bounded on the north and east by Uttlesford hundred, and on the south and west by Hertfordshire. It measures in length eight miles and a half, and in breadth five and a half; in some places only half a mile; its name is from the chief town, and it is within the archdeaconry of Colchester. At the survey, this lordship belonged to Suene, of Essex; and in the time of Edward the first, both the lordship and the manor were helden by Robert Fitz-Roger, from whom it has passed to the Claverings, Nevilles, and to the family of Barrington, of Hatfield Regis. A considerable part of this district was originally covered with wood, forming part of the extensive woodlands belonging to Hardwin de Scalaris, or Scales, and the name of Scales Park is yet retained by part of this estate. These lands are of various kinds, some of which are described as consisting of rough and unimproved pasture lands, which have, however, where hollow draining and judicious management has been adopted, amply repaid the labours of the agriculturist. There are five parishes: Clavering, with Langley; Berden, Ugley, Manuden, and Farnham.

CLAVERING, WITH LANGLEY.

Clavering.

This parish, in length four and in breadth three miles, is the largest in this half hundred; eastward it extends to Arkesden, Wickham Bonhunt, and Rickling; on the west to Hertfordshire, southward to Berden, and northward to Little Chishall: it is distant from Bishop Stortford seven, and from London thirty-seven miles. The village is small, and irregularly built, containing a few shops, and some good houses. The surrounding country is remarkably pleasant in appearance, the roads good, and the hedge-rows well timbered. A small stream rising in Arkesden, uniting with a rivulet from Langley, takes its course through this parish to Manuden, and to the river Stort. The name is apparently from the Saxon *Glæppa*, violets, and *ing*, a meadow or pasture: it is sometimes in records written Claveling.

Robert, son of Wimarc, was in possession of Clavering in the time of Edward the confessor, and, at the survey, it formed part of the extensive possessions of Suene, of Essex, whose under tenants were Ansgot, Wicard, Robert, and Ralph.

Hugh de Essex, the grandson of Smeene, hereditary standard bearer and constable to the king, by cowardice in the wars in Wales, forfeited his offices and estates, which the king distributed among his favourites. He married Alice, sister of Alberic de Vere, first earl of Oxford, by whom he had Henry, and Hugh, from whom the Essexes of Berkshire descended. After the decease of her first husband, the lady Alice was married to Roger Fitz-Richard, lord of Warkworth, in Northumberland, and of Clavering in Essex; who had by her Robert Fitz-Roger, and a daughter, married to John Constable, of Chester. There are two subordinate manors, which have been detached from the capital manor of Clavering.

The castle of Claveringbury, the residence of the ancient lords, was near the church: the extensive area which it occupied may yet be perceived, and some time ago the moat and part of the walls were to be seen.

Clavering-
bury.

After the forfeiture of Hugh de Essex, this lordship remained in possession of the crown, till it was granted, by Henry the second, to Robert Fitz-Roger, whose family retained possession for several generations, and took from it their surname of De Clavering. John Fitz-Robert, son and heir of Robert, died in 1240, and left by his wife Ada de Bæliol, his son Roger, who held this manor of the king, by one fee of the honour of Rayleigh: he died in 1249, and was succeeded by his son Robert, who held this manor and the half hundred, and died in 1309, leaving by his lady, Margery de Zouch, his son and heir John, who died in 1332. He married Hawise, daughter of Robert de Tibetot, by whom he had his daughter and heiress Eve, first married to Ralph de Ufford, and afterwards to Thomas de Audley, and by each of these had sons and daughters. Yet her father, the said John de Clavering, believing he should have no male issue, settled the reversion of this and his other manors on king Edward the first; in return for which the king granted him an annuity of four hundred pounds, or an estate of that value.*

Toward the close of the reign of Edward the third, this lordship came into the family of Neville, lords of Raby, and earls of Westmoreland: sir John de Neville, of Raby, in 1338, held this manor, with the half hundred of Clavering, of the king, by the service of one knight's fee: his lady died in 1395, also holding this estate; which descended to their son, sir Ralph de Neville, the first earl of Westmoreland, who had also the advowson of a chantry in the chapel of Clavering; he died in 1425:† Joan, his second lady, was sister of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster; she died in 1440, holding this estate, her eldest son, Richard Neville, earl of Salisbury, being her heir. His grandson, Richard Neville, third earl of Salisbury, having married Anne, daughter of Richard Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, in whose right he was also earl of Warwick, had by her Isabel, and Anne, first married to Edward prince of Wales, son of

* Arms of Clavering: Quarterly, or and gules, on a bend, sable, three mullets argent.

† Ralph, his grandson, by his deceased son John, was at that time his heir.

BOOK II. king Henry the sixth; and secondly, was married to Richard duke of York, afterwards king Richard the third. Isabel, the elder daughter, was married to George Plantagenet, duke of Clarence, brother to Edward the fourth, who had by her Edward, born in 1575, and who took the title of earl of Warwick, but was beheaded in 1598, for pretended treason, being the last of the lineage of Plantagenet. This estate was in consequence forfeited to the crown. The lady Isabel also bore to the duke of Clarence, her husband, a daughter named Margaret, married to sir Richard de la Pole, knight of the garter, and had by him Henry, Geoffrey, Arthur, and Reginald; and Ursula, married to Henry lord Stafford. In 1513, she petitioned king Henry the eighth, to be permitted to inherit the state and dignity of her brother, the earl of Warwick, and be styled countess of Salisbury: which the king granted, and the same year restored to her all the castles, manors, and lands of Richard, earl of Salisbury, her grandfather, which came to the crown by the attainder of her brother, and among the rest the manor of Clavering. But she also had the misfortune to be beheaded for pretended treason, and the estates again reverted to the crown; Henry Pole, lord Montague, her eldest son, was also condemned, and suffered with his mother. He married Jane, daughter of George Neville, lord Bergavenny, by whom he had Catharine, married to Francis Huntingdon; and Winifred, married to Thomas Hastings, second son of George, earl of Huntingdon, and, after his death, to sir Thomas Barrington: these two ladies, on petitioning parliament in 1553, were restored in blood; and queen Mary, in the first year of her reign, granted the manor of Clavering to sir Thomas Hastings, and to Winifred and her heirs.* In 1602, the lady Winifred Barrington died in possession of this manor and half hundred, and of Barrington-hall; and the same belonged to sir Francis Barrington, bart. at the time of his decease, and has descended as the estate of Hatfield Broadoak, to sir Charles Barrington, and to the heirs of the Barrington family.

Thurrocks
and
Pounces.

The subordinate manor of Thurrocks has the mansion-house on Butts Green, about a mile north-west from the church; but there are now no remains of Pounces. Sir John Walden had these possessions on his decease in 1419; which were afterwards, by female heirship, conveyed to the family of Barley, which retained possession till William, son of John Barley, esq., who died in 1541, sold Thurrocks and Pounces to sir William Petre in 1568.†

* Queen Elizabeth, in 1578, by mistake, as has been supposed, granted the manor of Clavering, among other things, to William lord Burghley, sir Walter Mildmay, and sir Gilbert Gerrard; but this grant does not appear to have taken place.

† William Barley, of Thurrocks, married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of John Serle, of Barkway, by whom he had John, and other sons and daughters. He died in 1610. John, his only surviving son, married Mary, daughter of John Haynes, of Old Holt, in Great Birch, by whom he had Haynes, William, and Elizabeth. He died in 1633. Haynes, his eldest son, married Margaret, eldest daughter of George Oliver, of Great Wilbraham, by whom he had four sons and nine daughters. He married, secondly,

The manor of Curles is named from the family of Crulle, to which it passed, from the Walden family in 1403. Isabella de Walden, in the same year, released to Thomas Westle, vicar of Clavering, and John Basset, esq., and his heirs, all her right in lands and tenements here, called Chamberleyns, which had belonged to sir Thomas Chamberleyn, and afterwards to Thomas Grey, of Pelham: from the Waldens it passed to Haynes Barley, esq.

CHAP.
VIII.
Curles.

The reputed manor of Geddings is supposed to have been given by Peche, lord of Plecheden-hall, in Henham, to sir Robert Geddings,* with his lady, Mirabel, daughter of Katharine Notbeme, whose mother was the heiress of sir Geoffrey Peche. The mansion of Geddings is now named Clavering-place. It formerly belonged to Captain Hatch of London, and afterwards to Henry Patten, esq., who died in 1707, and whose daughter, Anne, conveyed it to her husband, John Stevenson, esq., who died in 1741. It was afterwards in possession of successive proprietors of the same family.

Geddings.

Pondes, a capital mansion here, was the property of the Barrington family, and toward the close of the sixteenth century became the residence of Thomas Welbore, esq.,† who married Ursula, daughter of Silvester D'Anvers, esq., by Elizabeth, daughter of John lord Mordaunt: she died in 1591. A branch of the Cotton family formerly lived here: William, second son of William Cotton, of Cotton-hall, in Suffolk, was the first that was of Clavering, and his descendants were Thomas, Robert, Edmund, and Roger, a general of the Dutch forces, who died without issue, in 1638.

Pondes.

A messuage, and one hundred and seventeen acres of land, were given, in 1347, by John de Bingham, to the hospital of St. John, of Cambridge, now part of St. John's college, which yet enjoys this estate.

An estate named Arnolds, in this parish, in 1445, belonged to Joan, wife of John Hotoft; and, in 1548, to Peter Cutt, esq.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary and St. Clement; it has a spacious nave, side aisles, and chancel; the tower contains six bells: the whole building is of stone, embattled, and leaded.

Church.

Mary, daughter of Edmund Turner, esq. of Walden; and his third and last wife was Mary, daughter of William Riddlesdon, son of sir Stephen Riddlesdon, knt.; by her he had William, Charles, and Edward Haynes, who died in 1696, aged 90; having married Urith, daughter of sir Austin Palgrave, bart. of Norfolk, by whom he had Palgrave; William, who married Judith, only daughter of Richard Carr, esq. of Berden; Haynes, and Katharine, wife of Edward Hobert, esq. of Norfolk. Palgrave Barley, esq. had two third parts of Thurrocks and Ponces, which he gave by will to Miss Catharine Buckle; the other third part was in possession of Mrs. Jane Allen. On the decease of Palgrave Barley, the male line of this family became extinct. Arms of Barley: Barry wavy of six, ermine and sable.

* Arms of Geddings: A chevron between three eagles' heads erased.

† Arms of Welbore: Sable, a fesse between three boars, passant, argent.

BOOK II.

This church was given, by Robert de Essex, to the priory he had founded in Prittlewell, in the reign of Henry the second; and that house instituted and endowed a vicarage here, which after the dissolution, with the rectory, was granted by Henry the eighth to Henry Parker, esq. of Berden, from whose family they passed to sir Thomas Ramsey, lord mayor of London, in 1577; whose lady, in 1592, gave them to the hospitals of Christ Church, Bethlehem, and St. Thomas, in London.*

In 1821, this parish contained one thousand and eighty-one, and in 1831, one thousand one hundred and thirty-four inhabitants.

Inscriptions.

* Monumental inscriptions.—On the south wall of the chancel, on a marble monument, is a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation: "Sacred to the memory of Mr. John Smith, a Warwickshire-man; sometime fellow of St. John's, Oxford; then a divine of St. Paul's church; afterwards rector of this parish twenty-five years. He was a most vigilant pastor, and a man greatly esteemed for his real piety, wisdom, learning, eloquence, and gravity. He piously slept in the Lord in the fifty-sixth year of his age, in the year of our Lord 1616."

The family vault of the Barleys (anciently Barlee) is entered from the north aisle, where several monuments bear the following inscriptions: "Here under lieth buried Mary, fourth daughter of Edmund Turner, of Walden, in this county, gentleman, and Elizabeth his wife, second wife of Haynes Barlee, esq., by whom he had a very plentiful fortune, but no issue. She died the 5th of March 1658, was a loving and obedient wife, in whose memory he erected this monument."

On a marble monument, under a bust: "In a vault underneath are deposited the remains of Haynes Barlee, esq. with those of his three wives: the last was Mary, one of the daughters of William Riddlesden, esq., by whom he left issue four sons; William, Haynes, Charles, and Edward: he died in 1696, she in 1714. This monument is gratefully dedicated to their memories by Palgrave Barlee, esq."

A handsome monument is inscribed to the memory of "Margaret, eldest daughter of George Oliver, and wife of Haynes Barlee, of Cures, by whom he had four sons and nine daughters: six of them died in infancy, and the last was still-born, and within five days the mother died. She was a good woman, and a faithful, loving, and obedient wife sixteen years, and died in December, 1653."

On the glass of the window there are memorials painted of William Barlee, of the Middle Temple, son of Haynes Barlee, and Mary his wife: he died in 1683. Frances Riddlesden, daughter of William Riddlesden, esq. son of sir Stephen Riddlesden, knt. and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Palgrave, esq. She died in 1694. Haynes Barlee, eldest son of Haynes Barlee, esq. born in 1646, and died in 1691. Some of these inscriptions have been preserved by Dr. Salmon, but the glass on which they were painted has been broken.

In the nave, on the ground, a Latin inscription informs us that Ursula, wife of Thomas Welbore, of Pondes, in Clavering, and daughter of Sylvester D'Anvers, of Dautesey, esq. in the county of Wilts, died on the 26th day of December, 1591; and that Elizabeth, one of the daughters of sir John Mordaunt, knt. lies buried with her. Richard Godfrey of this parish died October 11, 1699; and Mary his first wife in 1683: and Anne his second wife in 1690. Joan Day died on the 3d of February, 1483: Robert, son of George Day, died in 1581. William Barlee, esq. and Elizabeth his wife, daughter and co-heiress of John Serle, of Barkway, are buried in the nave; he died in 1691: his son, John Barlee, married Mary, daughter of John Haynes, esq. of Old Hall, in Essex; he died in 1633, Mary in 1643, and William, their son, in 1635. In the north aisle, under an arch in the wall, there is the effigy of a man in armour, lying on his back, with a sword in his right hand, resting on his breast, but no inscription states who it represents. A mural monument bears a Latin inscription to inform us that, "Here lies John Stephenson, esq. only son of William, of Howton, in Cambridgeshire, descended from the family of the Stephensons, of Yorkshire; and Anne his wife, daughter and one of the co-heiresses of Henry Patten, of this village of Claver-

LANGLEY.

This hamlet and chapelry were formerly appropriated to the priory of St. Bartholomew, in West Smithfield,* to which it is believed to have been given by Robert Fitz-Roger, sometime previous to the year 1253.* The first time this place is mentioned in records is in the account of lands taken from the Normans, in the beginning of the reign of king John, and there was at that time a park belonging to it. In 1543, Langley Hall, after the dissolution of monasteries, was granted, by Henry the eighth, with Langley Hall Grove, to John Gate, esq. who, in 1550, conveyed them to William Bradbury, esq. who the same year died possessed of this estate, leaving Robert his son and heir; who dying in 1576, was succeeded by his brother Henry, whose son William died in 1607, leaving his son and heir, Henry Bradbury, under age: it afterwards belonged to the family of Luther. Anthony Luther, esq. of Doddington, had possession of this estate sometime previous to the year 1700. His mother was Mary, daughter of Edward Meade, of Berden: it was purchased of a succeeding representative of this family by Jacob Houblon, esq.

Langley.

Hall.

The estate of Langley Lawn is about half a mile from the chapel westward: it was a considerable time in the possession of the Nightingale family, and a handsome house named Clavering Park was built by sir Thomas Nightingale, bart. of whom it was purchased by John Smith, esq. son of sir Thomas Smith, bart. of Theydon Mount, and his daughter Anne conveyed it to her husband, Thomas Milner, esq. who died in 1733, having pulled down the old house, and in its place erected a larger and more elegant

Langley
Lawn.

ing. He died on the 2d of June, 1741, aged 75; she on the 27th of November, in the year 1722, aged 49: John Stephenson, esq. of Newtown, in Cambridgeshire, erected this monument to the best of parents."

On the ground: "William Benson, son of William and Elizabeth Benson, of Brent Green, died Jan. 1, 1677." "William Benson, gent. of Brent Green, and Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Barley, esq.; he died Aug. 10, 1659; she in 1677. Christopher, their seventh son, died in 1684." "Henry Patten, gent. of The Place, in this parish, died Aug. 6, 1767; and had for his wife Elizabeth, daughter of John Stock, of Chishall, gent."

An inscription to the memory of a person named Songar, informs us that he had fourteen sons and nine daughters by one wife.

Charities.—A barrel of white, and a cade of red herrings are left to be given to the poor in Lent; to be paid for out of a farm, lying toward Langley, called Valence.—A noble annually, left by Mrs. Martin.—An unknown benefactor left an annuity of three pounds, payable out of the estate of Curles: of this, two pounds is to purchase twenty-two loaves, to be given on the first Sunday in every month: the remaining pound to be given in groats to poor widows.—John Smith, vicar of this parish, left eighty pounds, his widow to enjoy it during her life, and on her decease to make it up one hundred pounds; with this money, land in Langley, named Poor Darnels, was purchased, from which six pounds is yearly distributed to poor families.—A farm in Berden, of six pounds yearly rent, was left by Haynes Barley, esq. of Curles, to apprentice poor boys, alternately one from six parishes, of which this is one.

Charities.

* In Domesday it is not separately mentioned, being included in Clavering: the name in records is Langeleg, and Hangeley.

BOOK II. building. His son, Thomas Milner, esq. died in 1742, and was succeeded by his cousin, Robert Milner. It afterwards became the property of Robert Cramond, esq. who, on his decease, in 1762, left Elizabeth, his only daughter, his heiress. It has since passed to several proprietors, and lately was in the possession of — Clayden, esq.

Chapel. The chapel, dedicated to St. John the Evangelist, belonged to Clavering church as a chapel of ease, from an unknown remote period. It was in being in the time of king Henry the second; and a new chancel was built at the charge of the hospitals.

The hamlet of Langley, in 1821, contained three hundred and twenty, and, in 1831, three hundred and eighty-four inhabitants.

BERDEN.

Berden. From Clavering this parish extends southward to Manuden, and westward joins Hertfordshire: the situation is generally pleasant and healthy, and much of the soil light and fruitful: in length it is three miles, and in breadth one and a half: distant from Bishop Stortford seven, and from London forty-seven miles. It lies about three miles westward from the road to Cambridge and Newmarket. The name, in Saxon, Bepeđen; in records, Berdon, Byerden; in Domesday, Berdane.

Godman, a sochman, held this lordship under a thane named Robert, previous to the Conquest; and at the time of the survey it belonged to Suene, whose under-tenant was Alured.

Berden Hall. The manor-house is near the church, and the manor, in the commencement of the reign of Henry the second, was holden by John de Rochford,* under Henry de Essex, as of the honour of Rayleigh; in 1247, sir Guy de Rochford had this possession, who dying in 1273, was succeeded by his nephew, John de Rochford, son of his sister Maud; and Robert his son, who married Isolda, daughter of William Fitz-Warine, held Rochford and Berden. On his decease, in 1337, he left sir Thomas Rochford, his son, his heir. In 1340, on the failure of heirs male in the Rochford family, king Edward the third granted Rochford and Berden to Bohun, earl of Northampton; and William de Bohun, after the decease of Christina, wife of Robert de Rochford, gave the manor of Berden to the abbey of Walden, which, in 1388, the abbot of that time held by the service of one knight's fee. After the dissolution, king Henry, in 1538, gave it to lord chancellor Audley; from whom it descended, with the Walden estates, to Thomas lord Howard, and Katharine his lady, who, in 1597, sold it to Thomas Sutton, esq. from whom it was conveyed to the family of Calvert, of Pelham Furness; descending from William Calvert, esq. to Felix Calvert, esq. of Pelham Hall, who died in 1655, to Nicholson Calvert, esq. of Hunsdon, in Hertfordshire, and to his successors.

* This family derived their surname from the town of Rochford.

A small hospital or priory for Augustine canons was founded here, as is probably conjectured, by some of the Rochfords. The patronage of it was given, in 1343, to the abbey of Walden, by William Bohun, earl of Northampton. The prior had licence to hold a fair here, which was granted in 1266, by Henry the third. They had also possessions here, in Manuden, Henham, Rickling, and Rochford: the prior was also patron of the rectory, which, upon complaints of poverty to Bishop Grey, he annexed to their house; and a vicarage was ordained, endowed with all oblations, obventions, and other profits of that kind, and all small tithes of this parish; but continued complaints of the house, in 1514, induced bishop Fitz-James to appropriate to them the vicarage also, which has since been only a curacy, to which the owner of the priory lands nominates, and the bishop gives a licence. After the dissolution of the priory, its possessions were granted to Henry Parker, together with the rectory, in which possession he was succeeded by Thomas and Margery Avery, and by sir Thomas Ramsey; who, in 1583, conveyed to the mayor and commonalty of the city of London, governors of the hospitals of Christ, Bridewell, and St. Thomas, this manor or priory, with the appertenances, twenty messuages, twenty cottages, twenty gardens, twenty orchards, a thousand acres of arable, two hundred of meadow, three hundred of pasture and one hundred of wood, and one hundred pounds rent; with the rectories of Berden and Clavering, and the advowson of these two churches.

CHAP.
VIII.Berden
priory.

The church is in a low situation, and dedicated to St. Nicholas:* it has a nave, two side aisles, and a chancel; and the tower, which is built of pebbles, contains five bells.†

Church.

The learned Joseph Mede, A.M. was born at Berden, in 1586. In 1602, he was a student of Christ's College, Cambridge, of which he afterwards became a fellow. He was so intent on the ardent pursuit of his studies, that he refused several valuable preferments, from an apprehension that the duties of these engagements would interrupt his pursuits. Among his learned writings, his Commentary on the Apocalypse is esteemed the most valuable: he died in 1638.

This parish, in 1821, contained three hundred and thirty-eight, and in 1831, three hundred and forty-two inhabitants.

UGLEY.

The road from London to Cambridge and Newmarket passes through this parish, which extends from Berden and the north-eastern extremity of the half hundred to Manuden: the village is small, and in the whole parish the increase of the population

Ugley.

* Churches in low situations, it has been observed, are very commonly dedicated to this saint; as those on elevated ground were in ancient times usually dedicated to St. Michael.

† Charity: Between four and five pounds a year, of which fifty shillings are paid out of Lamberts, are distributed to the poor. Charity.

BOOK II. has not exceeded five per cent. during the last forty years: from Bishop Stortford it is distant five, and from London thirty-five miles.

In Domesday-book it is written Ugghlelea, and in other records Uggele, and Huggele, believed to be a barbarous perversion of Oakley, from the Norman clerks employed by the Conqueror having been ignorant of the true pronunciation of the Saxon language.

Ulwin held this possession previous to the Conquest, and at the survey it was one of the fourteen lordships in this county which had been given to Alberic de Vere, whose descendants, earls of Oxford, continued lords paramount here till it became united to the dutchy of Lancaster.

Ugley
Hall.

The manor-house is near the church, and the manor was holden of Roger Fitz-Roger, lord of Clavering, as half a knight's fee, by Reginald Fitz-Peter, who died in 1286; John was his son and heir. John de Vinonia held this manor of William Tochet, who held it of John de Clavering, as a knight's fee; he holding it of the earl of Oxford by the same service. Thomas Gobion is recorded to have held it in 1360, and in 1371, having become vested in the crown, it was given in dower with Blanch, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas, duke of Lancaster, on her marriage to John of Gaunt, earl of Richmond, fourth son of Edward the third, and who in his lady's right became duke of Lancaster. In 1388, it was holden under John de Neville, lord of Raby, by Thomas Waterton.

Leven-
thorp
family.

In 1409, this manor was granted, by Henry the fourth, to John Leventhorp and Katharine his wife, and their heirs male, to hold in socage of the dutchy of Lancaster: John, their son, succeeded to this possession in 1432, followed by Thomas in 1484, on whose decease in 1492, John, his son, became his heir, who died in 1511: he was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1509, as was also Thomas his son in 1525, who died in 1527. Sir Edward Leventhorp, knt. was his son, and died in 1551; whose son and heir, Edward, died on his travels, at Rome, leaving by Mary, daughter of Sir Edward Parker, son of lord Morley, his son John, knighted in 1603, and created a baronet in 1622. He died in 1625, having had by Joan, daughter of sir John Brograve, knt. four sons and seven daughters. John died at Tours, in France; sir Thomas succeeded to the title and estate, and marrying Elizabeth, daughter of sir Giles Allington, knt. of Horseheath, in Cambridgeshire, had by her John, who died young, Thomas, Joan, and Dorothy. Sir Thomas Leventhorp,* bart. married Mary, daughter of sir Capel Bedel, bart. by whom he had Mary, his only child and heiress, married to John Cooke, esq. of Melbourne, in Derbyshire. In 1667, the estate was sold to sir Thomas Middleton, knt. of Stausted Hall; his son, Thomas Middleton, esq. was his successor, but he dying without male issue, this manor and woodlands in Ugley were sold, by trustees, to Thomas Heath, esq. He died in 1741, and was

* Arms of Leventhorp: 'Argent, a bend componée, gules and sable, cotized of the second.

succeeded by his son, Bailey Heath, esq. who, on his decease in 1760, left his widow, and his eldest son, at that time under age.*

CHAP.
VIII.

Bollington Hall is about half a mile south-west from the church, and the manor to which it belongs is believed to be what was named Balitun, and Bertun, and holden under earl Harold, in the time of Edward the confessor, by a freeman named Godwin. According to the record of Domesday, Suene had a manor here, as had also Robert Gernon; the latter was, by the surveyor, allowed to hold his rightfully, but Suene's was found to be an encroachment on the royal demesnes. Brend-hall is often mentioned in connexion with this manor, as if they were different estates, yet they are believed to have been the same; the secondary name having been applied on account of the house having been injured or destroyed by fire.

Bolling-
ton
Manor.

Fulk de Batonia had this manor in the time of Edward the first, which he sold to William de Montchensy. This manor was afterwards parcelled out, and holden by various persons; and in 1502 was given to Westminster abbey, by sir Reginald Bray, John Cutte, Edmund Dudley, and others; and that house retained possession till the dissolution of monasteries; after which, in 1542, Henry the eighth granted this with various other manors to the dean and chapter of Westminster. But in 1553, the manor of Bollington was granted by Edward the sixth to Richard Chamond and others. In 1562, Thomas Buck died holding this estate, described as parcel of the possessions of the cathedral church of St. Peter's, Westminster: John Buck was his son and heir; whose successor was Robert Buck, who dying in 1620, the estate passed to Thomas Buck, his cousin and heir. It afterwards belonged to the families of Symonds, and of Pepys, of the Pool, in Yeldham, and passing into the possession of John Poulter, attorney-at-law, of Clare, he sold it to William Plumer, esq.

A capital mansion on the right hand side of the road to Cambridge was erected by admiral Russel, afterwards earl of Orford, on which account it was named Orford-house: it is rather more than a mile distant from the church, is of brick, and has been much enlarged and improved in appearance by Isaac Whittington, esq.† It afterwards became the seat of W. Chamberlain, esq.

Orford-
house.

The church and chancel are of one pace only; and a tower, surmounted by a cupola, contains three bells: there is a chapel on its southern side, but by whom erected is not known: it belongs to Bollington Hall, and is kept in repair by the owner of that house.

Church.

* The demesnes of Ugley Hall, and North Hall, from a proprietor named Wentworth, passed by marriage to Charles Musters, esq. who gave them to Francis Musters, esq. his nephew, who died in 1741, his successor being Robert Musters, esq. of Nottingham, between whom and William Earl Benson, esq. a fine passed in 1745, for lands and tenements, &c. in Ugley, of the yearly rent of two shillings and one capon. On Robert Munster's decease in 1760, he left his daughter and heiress Elizabeth, married in 1764, to John Patridge, esq. of Nottingham.

† Arms of Whittington: Gules, a fesse componée, or and azure.

BOOK II. Formerly this church was a rectory, but being appropriated to the abbey of St. Osyth, that house instituted a vicarage, of which it retained the advowson till the dissolution; and queen Elizabeth, in 1561, granted the advowson of the vicarage to Ralph Bosville; and gave the rectorial tithes to Henry Best and Robert Holland, to hold of her manor of Greenwich. They were in the possession of sir Henry Maynard, knt. at the time of his decease in 1610; and were sold by his son, sir William Maynard, bart. to William lord Craven, who gave them to the hospitals of Christ's, and St. Thomas, in the year 1619.*

This parish in 1821 contained three hundred and twenty-nine inhabitants, which, in 1831, had diminished to three hundred and eighteen.

MANUDEN.

Manuden. From Ugley and Berden this parish extends southward to Farnham; and a large proportion of the district it occupies is used for pasturage, which under judicious management is found abundantly productive; in other instances, where a lighter, sandy, or gravelly soil prevails, the land is of a superior description. The village is about a mile and a half distant from the London road, in a pleasant valley on the borders of the river Stort: distant from Bishop Stortford four, and from London thirty-four miles. A fair is held here for toys and pedlery wares on Easter Monday.

The name in records is Manuden, Manewden, Manyden, Magghedana, Menghedana, Magellana; and is vulgarly named Mallendine. In the time of Edward the confessor

Inscriptions.

* Three mural monuments in the chancel are inscribed to the memory of "Martha Hester, who died May 11, 1759, aged 17: Jenny, who died April 29, 1755; Mary, Sarah, Charles; and Elizabeth, who died Jan. 10, 1761: the others died young.

"Mary, the wife of Paul Wright, M.A. vicar of this church, and daughter of Charles Bridgeman, gent. alderman and twice mayor of Hertford. She was a dutiful child, an affectionate and prudent wife, a tender and indulgent parent, a kind mistress, a true friend, a sincere Christian. These virtues procured her love and esteem, and have prepared her for a glorious resurrection. She died Nov. 11, 1760, aged forty-nine years.

"In memory of the rev. Edward Sparkes, M.A. vicar of this parish, and of King's Langley, in Hertfordshire, who by a life adorned with Christian virtue, and a sincere unaffected piety, instructed those who were committed to his care, no less than by his ministerial labours: humane and benevolent to all: the sick and poor found comfort from his attendance, and relief from his charity. He died March 25, 1739, aged fifty-six. Mary his wife died Nov. 5, 1762, aged eighty."

Below the effigies of a man and woman on a brass plate: "Here lyeth buried the body of Richard Stock, who deceased the 1ij of May, 1558. He had to wife Alice Hobbs, and had issue by her ii sons and iij daughters."

Charities.

Charities:—In 1620, Mr. Robert Buck, born in this parish, at Bollington Hall, left an annuity of twenty pounds to clothe three poor men and three poor women of the parishes of Ugley, Manuden, and Stansted Montfichet; and these three parishes enjoy this benefaction in their turns. Thomas Buck, of the same family, about the year 1670, left to the poor of this parish a tencement and a small piece of land, in Rickling, at that time let for five pounds a year. The income of this donation is at the disposal of trustees, who with it purchase coarse cloth for the use of the poor.

ten freemen had the divided possession of it; and at the survey it belonged to Robert Gernon, Alberic de Vere, Sasselin, William de Warren, and Ralph Baynard. These lands were consequently divided into five manors.

Manuden Hall was that part which belonged to Robert Gernon, and the manor-house is a short distance north-eastward from the church: the estate descended to the family of Playz, and to the De Veres. In 1327 it was holden by John de Bassingbourne, under Richard de Playz: and sir John Howard held it by the courtesy of England, after the death of his wife, daughter and heiress of John de Playz, who died in 1388: Elizabeth, married to Sir John Howard, was their grand-daughter and heiress. John Gardiner held this estate of king Henry the seventh by fealty and rent; and dying in 1508, left his son Henry his heir, at that time seventeen years of age. In 1509, Thomas Bradbury died, holding Manuden and other estates, in which he was succeeded by his nephew William.

Manuden
Hall.

In 1539, Thomas Crawley, esq. of Wendon Loughts, died in possession of this estate, which he held of Thomas Barrington, esq. and the lady Winifred Hastings his wife; Anne Crawley, his great grand-daughter, was his next heiress, but Margery, daughter of Thomas Crawley the elder, great aunt to the said Anne, by marriage conveyed it to John Bendish, of Bower-hall, in Steeple Bumsted; who dying in 1585, was succeeded by his son Thomas, the father of sir Thomas Bendish, bart., who sold this estate to sir John Meade, knt. of Wendon Loughts; on whose decease, in 1678, his successor was his son John Meade, esq., who mortgaged Manuden-hall to — More; and he in 1682 sold it to Felix Calvert, esq. of Stoken Pelham, whose son and heir, William Calvert, esq. in 1712, sold it to Thomas Tooke,* D.D. rector of Lambourne, and master of Bishop Stortford school, of the family of the Tookes, of Beer, in Kent: he married Anne, daughter of Richard Lydial, M.D. warden of Merton college, Oxford: to whom he left this estate for her life; he died in 1721. The estate afterwards came to his nephews, John Tooke, who died in 1764, and Richard Tooke, who died in 1776, having been successively rectors of Lambourne, in this county: on the death of the latter of these, it became the inheritance of his sister Susannah, wife of Peter Calvert, of Hadham, in Hertfordshire; who left it by will to her only son, the rev. William Calvert, rector of Hunsdon and Stoken Pelham; in Hertfordshire. He died December 10, 1831, aged eighty-six, and left this estate to his nephews, the sons of John Martin Leeke, esq. of Thorpe-hall, by Mary, sister of the said William Calvert.

The Hall is a very ancient building, in various parts of it bearing coats of arms, among which are those of the Bendish family. The ancient place for calling the

* He has a monument in the church of Bishop Stortford, Herts, and the rest of the family are in Lambourne church. Arms of Tooke: Per chevron, argent and sable, three griffins' heads erased, counterchanged.

BOOK II. court-leet of this manor, is under a tree near the hall, in the street called White Ash Court.

Battails.

Sir William Waad, knt. erected the manor-house of Battails, which is about a mile from the church; the name is understood to be from a more ancient family, who had possessions in Little Chishall and other places in the county, and some of whom were formerly resident in this parish. From these the estate passed to the families of Findern and Hiron, and to Roger Townshend, esq., of whom it was purchased by Owen Waller, of the family of that name, of Parham, in Suffolk; after whose decease, in 1574, his daughter and heiress, Anne, was married to sir William Waad, knt. many years clerk of the council to queen Elizabeth, and king James the first.* Sir William was succeeded, on his decease in 1623, by James Waad, esq. son of his second wife, daughter and co-heiress of sir Humphrey Browne, knt.: and he was followed by his son William, commonly called captain Waad, on account of his having been a captain of the trained bands. Marrying Anne, daughter of Haynes Barley, esq. of Clavering, he had by her William and Anne, who died young. In 1607, he was barbarously murdered in a field near his own house, by an assassin of the basest character, of the name of Parsons, who had insinuated himself into his company, and on whom he had conferred important and undeserved favours.† Anne, his widow, survived him many years; and as they had no surviving offspring, Anne, his sister, succeeded to this estate: she was married to sir Edward Baesh, knt. of Stanstedbury, in Hertfordshire; and they having no children, sold Battails to William Calvert, esq. of Furneuse Pelham, who married Honor, daughter of Peter Calvert, esq. of Hunsdon: he settled this estate on his eldest son, Felix Calvert, esq., who marrying Christina, daughter of Josias Nicholson, esq., had by her Nicholson Calvert, esq. who on the death of his father, in 1755, succeeded to this estate.

Pachenhou or Payton Hall.

The manor of Payton is the part which belonged to William de Warren at the time of the survey, and was named Pachenhou: the mansion-house is a mile and a half from the church, northward. In 1518, Robert Newport died in possession of this manor of Pakenhoo Hall, which he held of lady Bradbury, widow: John, his son and successor, held it under the countess of Salisbury, by the same name, and on his decease in 1524, left Grace, his only daughter and heiress, married to Henry Parker, lord Morley; in which noble family this estate continued for some time; and afterwards

* A particular account of sir William is given in the inscription on his monument in Manuden church. Armigel Waad, esq. his father, was of an ancient family in Yorkshire, clerk of the council to king Henry the eighth, and Edward the sixth. He was reputed the first Englishman who discovered the continent of America, and on that account was styled the English Columbus: by his first wife, Anne Marbury, he had three, and by Alice Paten, his second wife, he had seventeen children. He died in 1568, and his remains lie under a monument in the chancel of Hampstead church.

† Arms of Waad: Azure, a saltier between four escallops, or.

became the property of Anne, daughter of Haynes Barley, esq., married to William Waad, esq., and on her decease, in 1724, it descended to her nephew, Palgrave Barley, esq. of Curles, in Clavering, who dying without issue, in 1757, left this and his other estates to Catharine Buckle, grand-daughter of his sister Hobart.

The mansion-house of Pinchpoles is nearly a mile north-north-east from the church, in a low situation: this manor is what belonged to Sasselin at the survey, at that time named Pincepo; an ancient family took from it the surname of Pinchepoll. In 1502 it was given by John Cutte to the abbot of Westminster and his successors; and it remained in that house till its dissolution; after which, in 1542, it was granted by Henry the eighth to the dean and chapter of Westminster: but in 1553 it was taken from that appropriation, and by king Edward the sixth granted to Richard Chamond, by whom it was sold to Clement Buck, of Manuden; who on his decease, in 1577, left it to John, his son and heir, of whom it was purchased in 1592 by Thomas Hobbes, esq., who dying in 1632, left his only daughter, Susanna, his heiress. Afterwards it became the property of Peter Knight, esq. of West Ham, succeeded by his son Peter, who married Charlotte Burnaston, by whom he had Joseph Douglas Knight, esq. who married Sarah, only surviving daughter of the rev. Wentworth Bradbury.

Pinch-
poles.

The estate named Sawcmeres is what belonged to Ralph Baynard, and to the honour of Mandeville; and was incorporated into the dutchy of Lancaster. The mansion-house is a mile distant from the church, westward. From an unknown remote period it had been holden as half a knight's fee by the family whose name it had received, and passed from John Sawcemer to John Batayle; and about the year 1575 was in the possession of John Thurgood, of Stansted, who died in 1614: Nicholas, his son, was his heir; of whose posterity it was purchased by Philip Martin, attorney-at-law, of Epping.

Sawc-
meres, or
Sawce-
motes.

The church is built in the form of a cathedral, with a transept, nave, north and south aisles, and a spacious chancel. It is dedicated to St. Mary, and a stone tower contains five bells.

Church.

Richard de Camville, and Alice his wife, gave this church to the monks of St. Melan, in Bretagne, who had a cell at Hatfield Regis; and when a priory was founded there, this church was among its endowments; the house, retaining the rectorial tithes, instituted a vicarage here, of which it continued the patron till its dissolution; and afterwards the rectory and advowson of the vicarage were granted by Henry the eighth to sir Humphrey Browne, and have since passed to numerous proprietors.*

In 1821, this parish contained six hundred and fifty-six inhabitants, which, in 1831, had encreased to six hundred and ninety-five.

* Inscriptions. In the north aisle, a mural monument bears a Latin inscription in gold letters, of which the following is a translation: "Sir William Waad, knt. son of Arnigild, secretary to the lady
Inscrip-
tions.

BOOK II.

FARNHAM, OR FERNHAM.

Farnham.

This parish is on the southern extremity of the half hundred, extending to the borders of Hertfordshire; the village is pleasantly situated westward from the public road; distant from Bishop Stortford three, and from London thirty-three miles.

Previous to the Conquest, five freemen held the lands of this parish, which at the survey was the property of Geoffrey de Mandeville, and of Robert Gernon. It was afterwards divided into three manors.

Farnham Hall.

The chief manor-house is at some distance south-westward from the church, and consists of lands gained by successive encroachments on the king's demesnes. From Geoffrey it descended to his son William, and to Geoffrey his grandson, who was created earl of Essex: and from whom and his successors this manor-house was named Earlsbury. Maud, sister and heiress of William de Mandeville, by marriage conveyed it to her husband, Henry de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex: the sixth in descent from him was Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, who left two daughters, co-heiresses; Elianor, married to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester; and Mary, married to Henry, earl of Derby, who afterwards became king Henry the fourth. Elianor died in possession of this estate in 1399, leaving three daughters, of whom Anne, the eldest, became ultimately sole heiress; her three husbands were Thomas and Edmund, earls of Stafford, and William Bour-

Elizabeth's privy council many years; sent once to the emperor Rodolphus, and to Philip, king of Spain, and to Henry the third, king of France; thrice to Henry the fourth of France and Navarre, and once to Mary, queen of Scotland, on various affairs of the greatest importance; commissary-general of England, and superintendant of the soldiery in Ireland, and also secretary to the privy council of our most serene lord, king James; and lieutenant of the tower of London eight years; afterwards living privately and religiously till his seventy-seventh year, died, at his manor of Battleswood, in the county of Essex, on the twenty-first day of October, in the year of our Lord 1623."

Beneath the inscription:

<p>" You that have place and charge from princes, trust Whom honours may make thankful, not unjust, Draw near and set your conscience and your care, By this time-watch of state, whose minutes were Religious thoughts; whose hours heaven's sacred food:</p>	<p>Whose hand still pointed to the kingdom's good And sovereign's safety; whom ambition's key Never wound up guiltiness, bribe, or fee. Zeal only, and a conscience clear and even, Raised him on earth, and wound him up to heaven."</p>
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There is an epitaph on the ground, in the chancel, to the memory of Gertrude, wife of Richard James, who died in 1634.

Charities.

Charities.—In 1569, William Bull gave a mark yearly to the poor here.—This parish partakes with Berden in the benefaction of six suits of apparel, by Robert Buck.—In 1659, John Jacklyn gave a tenement to the poor. Another tenement was also given to the poor here in 1675, by the rev. John Pakeman.—Thomas Parker, in 1699, gave one hundred pounds to purchase an estate for the benefit of the poor of this parish.—The same sum was also given by William Gardiner, in 1709, to be employed for the same purpose.

chier, earl of Eu. The two last in her right enjoyed the manor of Farnham, which, on the partition of the Bohun estates in 1421, was allotted to king Henry the fifth, and annexed to the dutchy of Lancaster. It was part of the dowry of Margaret, queen of Henry the sixth, under whom it was holden by John Gaal; and was granted, by Henry the eighth, to his first queen, Katharine of Arragon; in 1547, it was holden of the king by Robert Chester; and under queen Elizabeth, in 1577, by Edward Elliot; and it was left, in 1594, by the same queen, to James Quarles, clerk of her kitchen. In 1603, king James the first, by letters patent under the great seal and the seal of his dutchy of Lancaster, granted this manor, in perpetuity, to John Erskine, earl of Marr, to hold of the manor of Enfield, in fealty only; and he, in 1607, mortgaged it to Peter Vanlore, of London; his under-tenant at that time being sir Robert, son of James Quarles. In 1610, it was purchased by the mortgagee, who the following year sold it to Robert Yonge and Thomas Thompson, from whom it was conveyed, in 1651, to Richard Hale, who, in 1678, bequeathed it to his grandson, Richard Hale, M.D. afterwards physician to Bethlehem and Bridewell hospitals, and who died in 1728.* His widow, after his decease, enjoying the estate, which afterwards became the property of Thomas Towers, esq.

The manor of Walkfares was taken from the chief manor, and consequently holden of the honour of Mandeville. In the reign of Henry the third, it was in possession of Ralph, son of Richard Farnham, from whom it passed to the Lovel family; Gunnora, widow of William Lovel, in 1256, claiming her dower out of this estate in her husband's right. It was afterwards holden by Walter Arden. John de Walkfare held it of the earl of Hereford, and on his decease in 1345, left Euphemia his wife, daughter and co-heiress of Edward Comyn, and widow of — De la Beche, of Beeches, in Rawreth; John, his son, being at that time eight years of age: she enjoyed the estate till her decease in 1361: in 1529, it became the property of the family of Ap Rice, and was sold, by Roger Ap Rice, to John Eliot, in 1559, and conveyed, by Elizabeth Eliot, to John Haynes, of Old Holt, in Birch; from whose son John it was sold, in 1622, to William Hone, of the Temple, who, in 1640, conveyed it to William Halton, esq. created a baronet in 1642; and he sold it, in 1645, to Thomas Meade, from whom it afterwards passed to another of the same name, both being of the family of Meade, of Berden; this last sold it, in 1694, to John Gill, attorney-at-law, whose executors sold it to Richard Hale, M.D. lord of Earlsbury; after whose decease, passing as that estate did, it became the property of Thomas Towers, esq.

Walkfares

The mansion-house of this manor is a short distance from the church, southward; the manor, previous to the Conquest, was holden by a freeman; and at the survey belonged to Robert Gernon, and passed to his descendants the Montfichets: it was

Hertisho-
bury.

* This learned gentleman published some valuable tracts in the Philosophical Transactions from 1701 to 1720.

BOOK 11. holden under them, in 1117, by Roger Anglicus, or English, in whose family it continued till 1293, and was afterwards, in 1366, in possession of sir John de la Lee, who died in 1370, and whose son and successor, sir Walter de la Lee, died in 1395: he was of Albury, in Hertfordshire, and representative for that county in nine parliaments: Thomas, his son, died before him, without issue; and his three daughters, Margery, married to Robert Newport; Joan, to John Barley; and Alice to sir Thomas Morewell, became his co-heiresses; and on the division of the estates, this manor, and Albury, were the portion of John Barley, whose son of the same name was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1424 and 1425, and died in 1445. His son Henry was also sheriff in 1467, and died in 1475. This manor was in the possession of Thomas Leventhorp, at the time of his decease in 1500, and of Agnes Leventhorp, who died in 1512. It afterwards passed to the Glasscock family.*

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is of one pace with the chancel, and has a cross aisle, with a tower, containing five bells.†

* Henry Glasscock, of High Easter, by his wife Grace, daughter of John Ennew, of Coggeshall, had Henry Glasscock, of Hertishobury, who married Margery, daughter of sir Francis Fitch, knt. Edward Glasscock, esq. of Brices, in Kelvedon Hatch, was their son; whose son Edward, of the same place, marrying Hester, daughter of John Wingate, esq. of Harlington, in Bedfordshire, had by her Henry, Thomas, and William; and by Elizabeth, his second wife, daughter of Henry Capel, had Edward and Elizabeth. Henry Glasscock, esq. the heir of Edward and Hester, married Mary, daughter of Thomas Jerner, esq. of Whitby, in Yorkshire, and had by her William Glasscock, esq. who, on his decease, having only a daughter, left his estate to his great nephew and godson, William Glasscock, esq. desiring it might go to the next male heir, from one generation to another. He also, for the same purpose of continuing the family name, gave the lease of the rectory of High Estre to Robert, brother of William; but it did not remain long in the family. William Glasscock, esq. second of the name, by Joanna, daughter of Edward Raynesford, of Warwickshire, had Henry, William, and Anne: on his decease in 1746, he was succeeded by his son, William Glasscock, esq. Arms of Glasscock: Ermine, a chevron, sable, between three cocks, azure, armed, wattled and legged, or. Crest: An antelope's head erased, argent, attired or, collared, with a girdle, sable, buckled or.

Monuments and inscriptions.† On the east wall of the chancel is a monument inscribed to the memory of Henry Lilley, rouge dragon, one of his majesty's officers of arms, who died 29th of August, 1638. There is also a sculpture of his arms: — three lilies proper, impaling — — a chevron — between three wolves' heads, couped, —.

On the floor of the chancel: William Glasscock, esq. died 23d March, 1690, aged 82; with his arms: Ermine, a chevron sable, between three cocks azure, armed, wattled, and legged, or.

Opposite the communion table, a stone is inscribed, "T. H. F. 1797. F. F."

On the wall of the church: to the memory of Nathaniel Geering, B.D. rector of this parish, who died — 1784, aged 80; he was the fourth son of Gregory Geering, esq. formerly of Deuchworth, in the county of Berks. Arms: Gules, on two bars, or, six mascles of the first; on a canton sable a leopard's head, or.

There was formerly an inscription on a stone in the middle of this church, to the memory of John Gaal, who, in 1448, held lands in Earlsbury, under Margaret, queen of Henry the sixth. This has been destroyed, as has also the fine old painting of the story of St. Catharine, which was to be seen in one of the windows, when Mr. Salmon visited this church.

Charity. * Charity.—Rowland Eliot left to the poor of this parish, forty shillings a year; to the poor of Bishop Stortford the same sum; and to London Bridge, twenty shillings; payable out of the manor of Walkfares.

The rectory was in the gift of the family of De Vere, from 1386 to 1545, and passing to various proprietors, by purchase or otherwise, was given, by Dr. Hale, to Trinity College, Oxford.

This parish, in 1821, contained four hundred and thirty inhabitants, which, in 1831, had increased to five hundred and twenty-four.

CHAP.
VIII.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN THE HALF HUNDRED OF CLAVERING.

R. Rectory.
P. C. Perpetual Curacy.

V. Vicarage.
+ Discharged from payment of First Fruits.

C. Chapelry.

Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Institution.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Berden, P. C.....	Colchester.	Vicar of Ugley.....	1818	£50 0 0	W. Ugley, Vic.
Clavering, V.....	L. P. Stevens.....	1816	22 12 11½	Christ's Hospital.
Farnham, R.	Wm. Greenhill.....	1825	23 8 9	Trinity Col. Oxford.
Langley, C.....	Vicar of Clavering..	1816	Not in charge	W. Clavering, Vic.
Manuden, V.	J. C. Hayes Stokes.	1820	†14 0 0	Rev. H. Marsh, &c.
Ugley, V.	J. R. Pitman	1818	†14 13 4	Christ's Hosp. Lond.

CHAPTER IX.

HUNDRED OF DUNMOW.

CHAP.
IX.

DUNMOW is surrounded by the hundreds of Hinckford, Freshwell, and Uttlesford, by Harlow, Ongar, and Chelmsford: it is in length twenty miles, and in the broadest part not more than eight, and contains the following twenty-six parishes: Dunmow Great, Dunmow Little, Easton Little, Easton Great, Tiltey, Thaxted, Lindsell, Chickney, Broxted, Barnston, Pleshey, High Estre, Good Estre, Mashbury, Canfield Great, Canfield Little, Roding High, Roding Eytrop, Roding White, Roding Morells, Roding Leaden, Roding Margaret, Roding Berners, Shellow Bowells, Willingale Dou, Willingale Spain.

Hundred
of Dun-
mow.

GREAT DUNMOW.

This is the larger of two parishes into which the district has been divided; the town is on a gravelly hill of considerable height, in a healthy and pleasant part of the county, near the river Chelmer: it consists principally of two streets. By some anti-

Great
Dunmow.

BOOK II.

Roman
antiqui-
ties.
Cæsaro-
magus.

quarians it is supposed to occupy the site of a Roman station, and to derive its name from the Celtic dunum, a hill, and magus, a town. Bishop Gibson has considered it to be the Cæsaromagus of Antoninus; and Mr. Drake, in a letter published in the fifth volume of the *Archæologia*, strengthens its claim to this appellation, by reference to its situation on a Roman road, and also to the circumstance of Roman coins having been found here; particularly one of Honorius, of the finest gold, and some large ones of the emperor Commodus of brass, were found in fields near the church; and on the estate of lord Maynard in this neighbourhood, Roman denarii have been found, of Gallienus, Tiberius, Posthumius, Victorinus, and others of the thirty tyrants.*

Other writers derive the name from dun, high, and mop, a heap.† In records this name is written Dunomawe, Dunmaw, Difumage, Dunmawge, Dunmore; in Domesday, Domdaw.

A market was granted here, in 1253, to John de Berners, by king Henry the third, which was held weekly on Saturdays, but it has been long in a declining state: two fairs for cattle are held yearly, on May 6, and November 8. The market-house is near the centre of the town, and bears the following inscription:

“Willame Steward, bayliffe, 1578; Wyllyame Swetinge, 1578; Thomas Swetinge, carpenter. Repaired and painted by Smeeth Raynor, bailiff, anno 1760.”

Govern-
ment.

The town is well lighted and paved, and supplied with water from springs in the neighbourhood. It was incorporated in the reign of Philip and Mary, confirmed by letters patent of queen Elizabeth, in the thirty-second year of her reign, and is governed by a bailiff, and eleven burgesses; twelve being elected, out of which the bailiff is chosen.‡ Magisterial authority is not at present exercised by this corporate body, who only appoint a constable, fix the assize of bread, and examine weights annually, on the Tuesday after Michaelmas-day. The petty sessions for the division is held here, and occasionally a court-leet for the chief manor. Formerly the bay and say trade flourished here, but is now extinct; and the only manufacture that remains

* Dr. Salmon observes, “This name to me seems compounded of two words, dun and mop; the first signifying *high*, the latter, *a heap*. Let it be remembered that it stands upon the Roman way, as we have traced it from London to Colchester, being a continuation from Stanes-street to Stanway. Dunmow is a highway or causeway, where the road is raised above the level; in Warwickshire and other counties called the *ridgeway*.”—*Salmon's Hist. of Essex*, p. 188.

† At Merk's Hill, in this parish, among earth and rubbish in a gravel-pit, several small urns, some small pieces of brass, and copper coins of Trajan and Antoninus, were discovered in the year 1760: the urns were ranged in regular order, the largest holding about a pint, and each of the three smallest being about the size of a tea-cup.—*Gough's Camd.* vol. ii. p. 54.

‡ The following are the gentlemen who at present act under this charter:—George Wade, esq. recorder; John Gunn, bailiff; burgesses, William Wade, esq., Samuel Philbrick, Joseph Grice, Isaac Malster, John Cavel Briggs, Joseph Sewell, Benjamin Mortier Foukes, John Scruby, John Fuller, William Colhs, Thomas William James.

is a kind of coarse cloth for sacks and bags. There are some good houses in the town, and places for religious worship belonging to the Baptists, Independents, and Friends. It is distant from Bishop Stortford seven, and from London thirty-eight miles.

C H A P.
IX.

The parish is of considerable extent, and well watered by the river Chelmer, on the banks of which there is some of the finest meadow land in the county; it is included in the crop-and-fallow district, yet is found to contain much excellent corn land. There are seven manors.

Previous to the Conquest several freemen held the manor of Great Dunmow under Wisgar; but at the time of the survey a portion of it was in the possession of Richard, son of earl Fitz-Gislebert;* the remainder being the property of Hamo Dapifer, steward to the king; and who afterwards became the sole proprietor of this estate, which, with other possessions, he left to Mabel, eldest daughter and co-heiress of his brother, Robert Fitz-Hamon. This lady was married to Robert, earl of Gloucester, natural son of king Henry the first; from whom this estate descended to the family of Clare, and was, with the honours of Gloucester and Clare, united to the duchy of Lancaster. It was holden under Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford, by Simon Fitz-Richard, in 1262, succeeded by others of the same family; and it was holden in 1298 by Richard Fitz-Simon, under Gilbert de Clare; who left three sisters his co-heiresses: Elizabeth, the youngest, was married to John de Burgh; and their son William left Elizabeth, his only daughter, wife of Lionel, duke of Clarence, third son of king Edward the third; who had by her his daughter and heiress Philippa, after his decease, in 1368, married to Edmund Mortimer, earl of March, who died in 1381; and whose son and successor was Roger; Edmund, the son of Roger Mortimer, died in 1421, and was succeeded by his sister Anne, married to Richard de Coningsburgh, brother of Edmund, duke of York, by whom she had Richard, duke of York, whose son was king Edward the fourth. In 1509, Henry the eighth made this manor part of the dower of Katharine of Arragon, his queen; together with a park, which was afterwards granted by Edward the sixth to William, marquis of Northampton; and was in the possession of sir Richard Weston, at the time of his decease in 1572, of his grandson, Richard, earl of Portland, who died in 1634, and also became the inheritance of Jerome his son. Dunmow Park, also named Danmoke Park, was bounded by the brook on the right-hand side of the road to Braintree: the mansion was called the Lodge; and a house not far from it belonged formerly to sir John Barrington, bart. This manor and lordship continued in the crown till it was purchased by William, the first lord Maynard.

Manor of
Great
Dunmow.

In the time of Edward the confessor, Edmar, a freeman, had the manor of Merks, Merks.

* A knight named Vitalis also claimed this possession.

BOOK II. which has been since named Merks,* from Adeloff de Merc, who held this possession under Eustace, earl of Boulogne, at the survey of Domesday. Many places in Essex have been named from this family, of whom Simon de Merc had possessions here in 1210 and 1211, and Ingelram de Merc held this manor in 1258, of the king, as of his honour of Boulogne. Robert was his son and heir, on whose decease, in 1305, he left Jacomima his widow, who held the estate till her death in 1340; her son and heir, Ingelram, being at that time beyond sea: in consequence of which, or of his dying abroad, it passed to his brother Robert, who sold it to Henry Ferrers, and he dying in 1343, was succeeded by his son sir William, whose widow Margaret enjoyed the estate after his decease in 1371, and it continued in this family till the death of William, lord Ferrers, of Groby, in 1435: his two sons were Henry and Thomas; the first of whom died in his father's life-time, leaving Elizabeth his daughter, married to sir Edward Grey, who, in her right, became lord-Ferrers, of Groby. Sir Thomas, second son and heir of William lord Ferrers, granted this manor for life to John Bouchier, and his lady Elizabeth; but it had again come into his possession at the time of his decease in 1458: he married Elizabeth, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of sir Baldwin Frevil, of Tamworth, and had by her sir Thomas, who died in 1498, without issue, leaving his cousin, sir John Ferrers, his heir. He died in 1511, having married Anne, sister of William lord Hastings, by whom he had John, who having married Maud, daughter and co-heiress of John Stanley, of Elford, died before his father, leaving John his son; who marrying Dorothy, daughter of William Rushall, had his son Humphrey, and he married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Pegot, sergeant-at-law, by whom he had John Ferrers, of Tamworth, who married Barbara, daughter of Francis Cockayne, of Ashborn. He sold this estate to John Milborn, who married Eleanor, daughter of — Meade, of Great Easton, and by her had John, his successor on his decease, in 1594. John Milborn, the son by his wife Joan, daughter of John Slade, of Warwickshire, had Robert, who married Alice Brage, of Bulmer, and had by her Robert Milborn, esq. of Merks, who sold this estate to sir James Hallet, knt. who died in 1734, leaving his son James his heir; who married Mary, daughter of sir Ambrose Crawley, knt., by whom he had James Hallet, esq., his successor in this estate.

Mynchons A manor, or reputed manor, named Mynchons, in queen Elizabeth's time, belonged to the Glascock family; subsequently possessed by James Hallet, esq.

Newton Hall. The manor-house of Newton Hall is half a mile from the church, westward; the manor to which it belongs was in the possession of Ulric Cawa, in the time of Edward the confessor; and at the survey it was the property of Geoffrey de Magnaville, whose under-tenant was Hugh de Berners: his descendants retained possession of this

* Arms of Merk: Gules, a lion argent, within a bordure indented, or.—Arms of Milborn: Gules, a chevron between three escallops, argent.

estate down to near the close of the reign of king Edward the third. A branch of the same family was also seated at Barnston. Margery, wife of John de Gysors, who died in 1305, held a moiety of this estate under Edmund de Berners; and it was holden under Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Essex and Hereford, by John de Berners, at the time of his decease in 1372. John de Goldington, in 1419, and, in 1487, William Kymwolmersh, or Kindlemersh,* had this manor, which remained in the latter family during several generations, till near the close of the fifteenth century; and, in 1627, was in possession of Robert Gosnold, esq., who sold it to Richard Deards, who died in 1630; after whom, the next recorded possessor was sir John Swinnerton Dyer, bart., son of sir William Dyer, bart. of Tottenham, in Middlesex, who married Thomasine, daughter and heiress of Thomas Swinnerton, esq. of Stanway-hall. Sir John Swinnerton Dyer married Elizabeth, daughter of Rowland Johnson, of Gray's-inn, by whom he had five sons and four daughters: on his decease, in 1701, he was succeeded by his eldest son and heir, sir Swinnerton Dyer, who married, Anne, daughter of Edward Belitha, esq. of Kingston-upon-Thames, and had by her Anne, married to Paul Whitehead. Sir Swinnerton married, secondly, Mary, sister of John Kemp, esq. of Spain's Hall, in Finchfield, who had made her his heiress; by her he left no issue. Dying in 1736, he was succeeded by his brother, sir John Dyer, bart. of Spain's Hall. This estate was afterwards purchased by John Hemmiker, esq. one of the burgesses in parliament for Sudbury.

Swin-
nerton
family.

Two small estates named Shingle Hall and Olaves, were held separately by Ansgar and a sochman, who held under him, previous to the Conquest; and afterwards belonging to Geoffrey de Magnaville, became united in 1361. William Glyne, with Joan his wife, held this manor, which passed to their son William. John Josselyn, esq. purchased it, and left it, on his decease in 1525, to his son Thomas; and, in 1627, it belonged to Richard Jennings, esq. whose son Thomas was his heir. Afterwards passing to several proprietors, it was conveyed in marriage to Mr. John Parker, linen-draper, of London, and became the inheritance of his son and heir, John Parker, esq. of Whaddon, in Surrey. It has a court baron and court leet, and in the rolls is called the manor of Shingled Hall, alias Olaves, cum Waldraines. The mansion-house is a mile from the church southward.

Shingle
Hall.

The manor of Martels is on the right-hand side of the road from the town to the church. Previous to the Conquest it belonged to Ansgar, and afterwards was holden under Geoffrey de Magnaville by Martel, whose name it has retained. The proprietors of this estate have not been further recorded till 1637, when being in possession of Robert Smith, esq. it was purchased of him by Geoffrey Stane, esq. of Rise, in Hatfield Broadbalk, from whom it passed, as the Hatfield estate did, to his grandson, Stane Chamberlain, esq.

Martels.

*rms of Kindlemersh: Per fess, ermine and sable, a lion rampant, counterchanged.

BOOK II. The manor of Bigods, or Alferestune, was formerly a hamlet to Great Dunmow, and has had a chapel, from which the field where it stood has been named Chapel-field. The mansion-house is a mile from the church, toward Stebbing and Lindsel.

Bigods.

In 1201, Hugh de Chatillion, count de St. Paul, had this estate, as had also Thomas, count de St. Paul, in 1210 and 1211: it sometime afterwards passed to the crown, and, in 1226, was granted to Reimund de Burgo, and afterwards to Bartholomew Bigod, or Le Bigod. William de Bigod had part of this manor in 1277; and Ralph Bigod held it at the time of his decease in 1315, as did also sir Walter Bigot in 1372, leaving his grandson Walter, the son of his son Thomas, his heir; who, with Isabel his wife, held this manor of Bacons, in Danesey, of the abbey of Bileigh; he died in 1398, leaving his son William his heir. This estate, in 1426, was holden by Isabella, wife of John Doreward; and, in 1434, a third part of it was holden by Richard Fox, who left it to Anne, his daughter and heiress: this portion of the estate belonged also to Joan, wife of John Hotoft, who, dying in 1445, left it to her son, John Powers. The Jenoure* family were possessed of this estate from sometime after 1445 to 1763, when it was purchased by Michael Pepper, of Stansted Thele.

Jenoure family.

Southall.

Two parcels of land, in the time of the Saxons belonging to Algar, earl of Mercia, and to a freeman; and, at the survey, to William de Warren, and Suene of Essex, have been united, and form the manor of Southall; the mansion being about a mile southward from the church. In 1263, it was holden by Jollan de Durmers, under the crown, as of the honour of the earl of St. Paul, by the service of a pair of gilt spurs; his son and heir is, in the inquisition, named Jollan de Duresme,† succeeded by his son Edmund, whose co-heiresses were his daughters, Ada, Elizabeth, and Maud. In 1389, a licence was granted to Robert Rickedon, Robert Knechhole, Thomas Houlet, and John Eleyne, clerk, to give this manor to the prior and convent of Little Dunmow, holden of the king; and it remained in that house till its dissolution, after which it is supposed to have been granted, under the name of Clopton Hall, to

* The Jenoure family was of Stonham Aspell, in Suffolk, and John Jenoure, esq. prothonotary of the common pleas, had this manor in 1529, and dying in 1542, left his son and heir Richard, who died in 1548; whose son Andrew was his heir. He died in 1620; his son, Kenehm Jenoure, was created a baronet in 1628, and died in 1629, having married Jane, daughter of sir Robert Clark, baron of the exchequer; he left by her sir Andrew, his eldest son and heir, who married Margaret Smith, of London, by whom he had sixteen children, of whom Andrew, the eldest son and heir, married Sarah, daughter of Robert Milborn, esq. of Merck, but died before his father, leaving his son, sir Maynard Jenoure, who succeeded his grandfather, and marrying Elizabeth, only daughter of sir John Marshall, knt. of Sculpins, had John Maynard, Joseph, and Mary, wife of James Bellenden, esq. son of lord Bellenden. Sir John, the eldest son and heir, died in 1739, having married Joan, only daughter of Richard Day, esq. of Epping, by whom he had his son and heir, sir Richard Day Jenoure, who, on his decease in 1744, was succeeded by his kinsman John, son of Joseph Jenour, who married Anne, daughter of John Sandford, esq. of Bishop Stortford.

† Arms of Duresme: Argent, a cross gules, charged with five fleur-de-lis, or.

Robert, earl of Sussex, and holden by William Withipole, in right of Joan his wife, widow of Henry Radcliffe, viscount Fitz-Walter. In 1634, it belonged to lord Petre, and was afterwards purchased for the Drapers' company, with money left by Mr. Bancroft, founder of the tanneries at Mile-end. CHAP.
IX.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a spacious Gothic structure, consisting of a nave with lateral aisles, a chancel with a south aisle, at the west end a lofty tower embattled, and six bells. The east window is a fine specimen of what has been termed the decorated style of English architecture.* About the door of the tower on the outside were thirteen shields; some of the arms are well known, being those of Mortimer, Bohun, Bouchier, Braybrooke, Louvain, Coggeshall, Quincey, Baynard, Duresme, &c.; these great men had probably been at one time or other contributors to the building or repairs of this considerable church, which was the head of the deanery of Dunmow. Two hundred and thirty new sittings have been lately provided here, of which two hundred are free.† Church.

The church was anciently a rectory and sinecure, the rectors presenting to the

* Mr. Symonds collected the fenestral antiquities here, and arms and epitaphs, some of which yet remain: in the chancel east window, Edward the confessor's arms; in the window of the south aisle, Bouchiers; in the south porch window, baron and femme, the woman's lost, the man's quarterly, sable, a fess between three cinquefoils, or. (Salmon, from whom probably Mr. Morant copied this notice of Mr. Symonds' notes, has an additional reading, "quarterly sable, a fesse between three cinquefoils, or. Arma Robti de Re.... armigi et Katerinæ uxoris."—*Salmon*, p. 211.) On the west wall the Sec of London, impaling several bishops' arms; in the south aisle, party per fess ermine and sable, a lion rampant, counterchanged for Kindlemersh, impaling those that they matched with, amongst the rest four water bougets for Bouchier. Salmon notices two other shields of arms in this church: on the south wall, azure a leopard rampant guardant, or, impaling Jenour, and another quarterly. In the south aisle, Maynard's coat and crest and quarterings. The following arms, in stained glass, were remaining in 1825. Argent, a bend engrailed sable. South aisle of the nave: Argent, a cross gules charged with five fleur-de-lis, or. South aisle of the chancel: Argent, a cross gules between four water bougets, sable.

† Monuments in the church: Against the south wall of the chancel.—"Near this place lies the body of sir John Swinnerton Dyer, late of Newton Hall, in this parish, bart. son of sir William Dyer, late of Tottenham High Crosse, in the county of Middlesex, bart. He married Elizabeth, ye daughter of Rowland Johnson, of Gray's Inn, in ye same county, gent. by whom he had five sons and four daughters, who are all living except the eldest son. He departed this life, ye 17th May, 1701, in the 44th year of his age, to whose memory his lady erected this monument. Arms: Quarterly, one and four, or, a chief indented gules; two and three, argent within a bordure engrailed gules, a cross pattee fleury. Over all, the badge of Ulster. Crest: Out of a ducal coronet, or, a goat's head, armed of the first." Monu-
ments.

On the floor of the chancel: "Under this stone lies deposited the body of Ann, late lady of sir Swinnerton Dyer, of Newton Hall, in the county of Essex, bart. and fourth daughter of Edward Belitha, of Kingston-upon-Thames, in the county of Surrey. As she always shewed herself dutiful to her parents, so the duties of love and obedience, fidelity, modesty and chastity, comfort and help, friendly and kind society and conversation, she prudently paid to her husband. She died August 21, 1714, aged 33 years, leaving her disconsolate husband only one child, a daughter, named Ann." This epitaph is in Le Neeve's printing collection, 1700 to 1715. Also in the Harleian MS. No. 3616, in the British Museum. Other epitaphs on the Dyer family are on dame Elizabeth Dyer, wife of sir John Swinnerton Dyer, who died

BOOK II. vicarage: the duke of Clarence, and afterwards the Mortimers, earls of March, had the patronage till 1479, when the rectory was appropriated to the dean and chapter of the collegiate church of Stoke, near Clare; and from that time the bishop, of London, and the canons, alternately presented the vicar till the dissolution. In 1554

30th of May, 1727, æt. suæ 58. Elizabeth Dyer, eldest daughter of sir John Swinnerton Dyer, bart. who departed this life 10th of Aug. 1728, aged 42.

North wall of the chancel: "Sacred to the memory of William Beaumont, esq. son of sir Thomas Beaumont, bart. of Staunton, Leicestershire, who departed this life, 31 Mar. 1718, aged 76, leaving issue by his wife Jane, daughter of Hugh Watts, of the same county, esq. who died 22 June, 1719, aged 66, William, Henry, Henrietta, Jane, and Mary. 'Also of William Beaumont, esq. junior, son of the above William, who died 17th January, 1720, aged 47. The names of both of them, for their singular sweetness of behaviour, probity of life, constancy in religious duties, remain with all who knew them, honoured and dear, a pattern of piety to posterity, and an honour and ornament to their ancient lineage, derived from noble ancestors. This monument was erected by the pious care of Elizabeth, daughter of William Jordan, esq. of Cathwick, in the county of Surrey, now the sorrowful widow of the above William Beaumont, jun. supported from this comfort alone, that she has borne and now educated his children, George, William, Thomas, Elizabeth, and Margaret, all of promising hopes, seeming already to aspire to the imitation of their parent's virtues. Elizabeth, the daughter of William Beaumont, died 19th July, 1735, aged 11 years. Arms: Azure semée of fleur-de-lis, a lion rampant, or: impaling the same crest on a chapenu azure, semée of fleur-de-lis, or, turned up ermine, a lion passant of the second."

"In this chancel are deposited the remains of sir George Beaumont, bart. of this place, who died Feb. 4, 1762, aged 36, and of dame Rachel his wife, who died May 5th, 1814, aged 96 years. Erected to the memory of his parents by sir George Howland Beaumont, bart. of Colerton Hall, in the county of Leicester.

"The dreadful hour is come, 'tis come, tis past;
That gentle sigh, dear mother, was thy last;
And now, diffused among the blest above,
Glow's the pure spirit of maternal love;
Tinged by whose beam my very fallings shone,
Graced in thy eyes with something not their own.
No more affection shall thy fancy cheat,
Or warp thy judgment when again we meet;
But every action, in its native hue,
Rise nudisguised and open to thy view.

May every action then be duly weigh'd,
Each virtue cherish'd, and each duty paid;
That when my trembling soul shall wing her
flight,
Through death's dark valley to the realms of
light,
I may expect, where no false views beguile,
The approving look of that accustomed smile;
Blest smile, becoming her sublime abode,
And harbinger of pardon from my God."

Arms of Beaumont: Impaling argent, two bars sable, in chief three lions rampant, of the second.

"Here lieth the body of Mr. Thomas Beaumont, vicar of ye parish, second son of sir Thomas Beaumont, of Stouton Grange, in the county of Leicester, bart.. He married Susannah, daughter of William Oldys, D.D. vicar of Alderburg, in the county of Oxon, by whom he had four sons and two daughters. He died Jan. 15, 1730, aged 71." Arms much defaced.

This epitaph is in part supplied from Salmon, being in 1826 considerably defaced; he adds the following particulars in the way of illustration: "The title is now devolved to his grandson, sir George, whose residence is at Dunmow. The said Dr. William Oldys, father of the famous civilian of that name, is mentioned by David Lloyd, Anthony Wood, and Dr. Walker, but not particularly enough; his monument is in Alderbury church; part of the epitaph is as follows: 'P. M. S. G. Oldys S. T. P. hujus ecclesie vicarii qui flagrante bello plusquam civili læsæ et religionis et majestatis causæ fideli et strenuo actor, perduellium millebus prope hanc villam, anno salutis 1645, ætæ 55, vulneratus occubuit, &c.' He was

and 1559, the bishop alone presented, and so did his successors up to the year 1590, when queen Elizabeth granted the rectory of Great Dunmow, which is a manor, to John Aylmer, bishop of London, and his successors in the see for ever.

In 1821, this parish contained two thousand four hundred and nine, and, in 1831, two thousand four hundred and sixty-two inhabitants.

returning from Oxford, where he had been to admit his son, and fearing he should fall into the hands of the parliament soldiers, ordered his servant to ride at some distance before him, and if he saw any of them, to drop his handkerchief, as a signal for him to go back to the garrison of Oxford or Banbury. The man dropped his handkerchief, which his master passed without seeing: as soon as he perceived the enemy he turned about, but his malignant horse would not leave his road, so he was shot through the back."—*Salmon's Hist. of Essex*, p. 211, *Lives of the Loyalists, Sufferings of the Clergy*, &c.

"In this chancel are interred the remains of George Howland, esq. late of Haverill, in this county, who died 16th February, 1698, aged eighty-five years. This tablet was erected to his memory by his grateful nephew, sir George Howland Beaumont, of this place and Colerton-hall, in the county of Leicester, bart."

"Rev. John Mangey, prebendary of St. Paul's, London, and only son of the late rev. and learned Dr. Thomas Mangey; he lived twenty-eight years vicar of this parish, and departed this life on the 1st day of November, 1782, in the fifty-fifth year of his age. His widow erected this monument." Arms: Argent, a chevron vair (argent and azure) on a chief gules, two mullets of the field; impaling azure, a turtle, or tortoise, argent.

"Near this place lies the body of Mrs. Dorothy Mangey, widow of the rev. Dr. Mangey, late rector of the parish church of St. Mildred's, Bread-street, London, and prebendary of Durham, and second daughter of the most reverend Dr. John Sharpe, late archbishop of York. Her son, John Mangey, the present vicar of this parish, from a principle of sincere and tender regard to a most kind and affectionate parent, whom he always loved and revered, caused this monument to be erected. She died July the 5th, 1780, in the eighty-eighth year of her age."

"Near this place lieth interred the body of Mary, daughter of John Wiseman, of Bozeat, in the county of Northampton, esq., late wife of Thomas Cullum, son of John Cullum, of Thornden, in Suffolk, esq., by whom she had issue seven sons and one daughter; which four sons lie here also. She died in childbed, 31st of August."—Arms: A chevron ermine, between three pelicans, or, impaling quarterly one and four sable, a chevron between three coronels argent, two argent, ten roundels gules, the whole within a bordure sable three, argent, a cross gules, between four birds (supposed, peacocks) azure.

"Mr. Robert Hasel Foot, surgeon, died 12th June, 1748, aged seventy."

In the nave.—"John Pepper, esq. of this parish, who died June 1822: he was the last surviving descendant of the late Michael Pepper, esq., and grandson of sir Richard Fitzgerald, bart. Also, infant daughter, Susan Frances Maria, who died 31st October, 1819, aged four months."

"Dame Joanna Maria Fitzgerald, relict of sir Richard Fitzgerald, bart. of Castle in the kingdom of Ireland, who departed this life at her house in Portman-square, London."

"To the memory of lord John Henniker, of Newton Hall, in this parish, who died April 1803, and is interred with dame Henniker, his wife, in the cathedral church of Rochester. This monument was erected by his son, the hon. major-general Brydges T. Henniker."

"To the memory of dame Ann Henniker, the wife of sir John Henniker, bart. of Hall, in this parish." (The elevated situation of these monuments prevents the investigation of the arms.)

Mass plates.—"Hic Jacet Johannes Calthorpe generosus qui obiit in anno 1616. Claudii Huthersanli carpi lapidis iste Johannis quam sacrum in Thalmos Martha relicta dedit obiit 3 die Decembris An. Dni. 1609. Hic sue An. 33."

"Here lieth the body of Elizabeth, the wife of Francis Vassall, citizen and draper, of London. She was

BOOK II.

LITTLE DUNMOW.

Little
Dunmow.

Little Dunmow extends eastward from the larger parish of the same name, and is bounded south and south-eastward by Barnston and Felsted. In circumference it is computed to be twelve miles, and is distant from Chelmsford twelve, and from London forty miles.

Previous to the Conquest, the lands of this parish were in possession of a free-woman, of a freeman, and of a sochman; and, at the time of the survey, belonged to Ralph Baynard, whose son Geoffrey was his successor, and the father of William, who joining the enemies of king Henry the first, was deprived of his barony and large estates, which were given to Robert, son of Richard Fitz-Gislebert, progenitor of the ancient earls of Clare, and from whom the noble family of Fitz-Walter descended.

the daughter of John Smith, minister of this parish, and Elizabeth his wife: she died the 12th of May, Anno Dni. 1652, being of the age of eighteen years."

"In memory of Thomas Waskett, of Barnston Hall, yeoman, who died in 1738, aged ninety-two; and of his son, Thomas Waskett, of Barnston Hall, who died in 1750, aged sixty-two: Also, John Waskett, of Barnston Hall, oblit. 21st June, 1758, aged sixty.—Elizabeth Waskett, wife of the above John, oblit. 5th August, 1771, aged seventy-five.—Also, John Waskett, son of the above John and Elizabeth, oblit. 1st March, 1776, æt. forty-six."

On a large flat stone in the chancel, the figure of a crosier, within a border; but no brass or inscription remaining.—On another stone, the figures of a man and woman, the brass of the man gone; with two shields of arms. Dexter side a chevron between three cocks sinister, same as the dexter shield, impaling a chevron between three coronels Wiseman.

The following inscriptions are recorded by Weever and Salmon, but few or no vestiges now remain:—"Exoretis miam dei p. aia Walteri Bigood armigi qui ob. 16 Mar. 1897." Weever has—"17 die mens. Mar." "This is the first of the family," Salmon observes, "that settled at Figods."—Salmon gives the following inscription in Norman French, with Saxon characters, as being on the verge of a stone—"Simon de Righam jadis prync de Dunmaue ici lye." Weever gives this inscription complete, but with the spelling somewhat modernized, and the abbreviations supplied—"Simon de Righam jadis parson de Dunmow gist ici Dieu de son Alme eit mercy. Amen."—Salmon observes, "This is no rector's name since 1360."—In the middle of the church was this inscription: "Of your cherite prey for the sowls of John Jenone, esqyr, som tym of the common pleas of Westminstre, and Alys his wyff, whych John dyed xvlii Septembry m.c.xlii." Salmon spells the name *Jenour*.—The next inscription, which is given by Salmon, is said to have been removed from the chancel to make way for sir John Dyer's monument:—"Here lyeth the body of Richard Deardes, of Newton Hall, gent. who died 28th April, 1630; and of Thomas Deardes, his son, who died 2d of May following."—On another monument, "Hic jacet Gulielmus Glascock et Philippa uxor ejus qui ob. 3 Dec. 1579, et Philippa ob. 19 Dec. 1608." i. e. "Here lies William Glascock and Philippa his wife: he died 3d Dec. 1579; and Philippa died 19 Dec. 1608." Other monuments recorded the names of Howland, Pindeck, Smith, Raymond, and Burr.

Charities.—The rent of a house and land at Cutler's Green is given to the poor by the churchwardens. The rents of four houses are for the repairs of the church.

There are almshouses for six poor people, and a charity school for fifty boys, and twen supported by voluntary subscriptions.





His posterity held this lordship, as part of the barony of Fitz-Walter, through ten generations, including Robert, who died in 1328; John, in 1362; Walter, in 1432, whose widow Elizabeth died in possession of it in 1464; in defect of heirs male, leaving the family possessions to be divided among co-heiresses. Anne, the second daughter of Walter Fitz-Walter, married to Thomas Ratcliffe, esq. had this and other estates; sir John, their son, was summoned to parliament in 1485, by the title of lord Fitz-Walter: Robert, his son, was created viscount Fitz-Walter in 1526, and earl of Sussex in 1529: his descendants retained this possession till after the death of Robert Ratcliffe, earl of Sussex, in 1629, who was the last of the family in the direct line. By purchase or inheritance, it afterwards became the property of sir Henry Mildmay, knt. of Moulsham Hall; and from Thomas Mildmay, his descendant, it was afterwards conveyed to sir Thomas May; and, sometime after the close of the sixteenth century, was sold to sir James Hallet, knt. who died possessed of it in 1703. James Hallet, esq. his son, married Mary, daughter of sir Ambrose Crawley, knt. by whom he had eight children. On his decease in 1723, he left this estate in jointure to his widow, on whose death it descended to their eldest son, James Hallet, esq.

The priory of Dunmow was for canons of the Augustine order, and founded in the year 1104, by the lady Juga, sister of Ralph Baynard. There was a manor, or reputed manor, belonging to it, as is apparent from letters patent of king Henry the eighth, in which he "granted to Robert, earl of Sussex, and his heirs, the site of the priory of Dunmow, with the manors of Dunmow Parva and Clopton." This estate was sold by Edward, earl of Sussex, in 1640, to sir Henry Mildmay, knt. of Moulsham. Priory.

The manor, known by the name of Priory Place,† was, soon after the restoration, in possession of sir William Wylde, knt. and bart.‡ who dying in 1679, was succeeded by his son, sir Felix Wylde, and his sister and heiress Anne conveyed it, in marriage, to John Cockman, M.D. whose daughter was married to Nicholas Toke, esq. from whom it descended to his son, John Toke, esq.

Of the extensive buildings belonging to this monastery, no remains have been preserved, except what is made to constitute the parish church, including the east end of the choir, and the north aisle§ of the original priory church, which was both for conventual and parochial use. It was consecrated by Maurice, bishop of London, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary; and massive columns, the capitals covered with Church.

* Arms of Hallet: Or, a chief indented sable, on a bend engrailed, gules, three bezants. }

† Arms of the priory: Sable, a cross, argent, between four mullets, or.

‡ Sir William was recorder of the city of London: in 1668, made justice of the common pleas, and of the king's bench in 1672.

§ Mr. Gough says, "the present church is only the south aisle and five arches of the nave."—*Britannia*, vol. II. p. 54.

BOOK II. foliage of oak, elegantly carved, and beautiful Gothic windows, the remains of the original fabric, give sufficient evidence of its former magnificence.

The living of this church has been augmented by two separate donations of two hundred pounds each, and by six hundred pounds from Queen Anne's bounty.*

Chantry.

In 1274, Roger de Saling founded a chantry in the chapel of St. Mary, in the court of the priory, for the reception of strangers, to pray for his soul, and the souls of some other persons for ever; and endowed it with Much-mill and the mill-pond, Much-field meadow, and other lands in Rayne.†

Monu-
ments.

A tomb, under an arch, in the south wall, is believed to contain the remains of lady Juga, the foundress: it is of a chest-like form, and of great apparent antiquity. A monument, not far from this, is to the memory of Walter Fitz-Walter, the first of that name, who died in 1198. He was buried, with one of his wives, in the middle of the choir, and the tomb, with the effigies with which it has been ornamented, have been removed to this place. The figure of sir Walter has received considerable damage, and has the legs broken off at the knees; the hair of the head has a singular appearance, curling inwards, and seeming to radiate from a centre—a fashion commonly observable in monuments of the same period; and the mitre-like head-dress of the lady, with lace, a necklace, and ear-rings, give a correct idea of the fashionable ornaments of the time. Sir Walter is represented in plate armour; under which a shirt of mail is seen above the collar and below the skirts. Others of this family were also buried here, particularly Robert, son of Walter, who died in 1234, and was buried before the high altar; the second Walter, son of Robert, died in 1259, and was also buried in this church, as was also Walter, lord Fitz-Walter, the last male of the family, in 1432, under a mural arch, near the remains of his mother. An alabaster figure, in a superior style of workmanship, lying between two pillars on the north side of the choir, represents Matilda, the beautiful daughter of the second Walter Fitz-Walter; who, according to the traditionary legend, was destroyed by poison, secretly administered, in revenge for refusing to gratify the illicit passion of king John.‡

* Originally, the induction to this church was by the prior and canons selecting one of their own body, and presenting him to the bishop to serve the cure, but he was not instituted, as into a rectory or vicarage: and since the dissolution, it is only a donative, or curacy, in the gift of the lord of the manor.

† To the south of the church of Little Dunmow, two field-lengths from it, at the corner of a field, is a square area, surrounded by earth-works, which are very high on the southern side.

Inscrip-
tions.

‡ In Little Dunmow church are the following inscriptions:—"In memory of those whose mortal remains were deposited in an adjacent vault at the following periods: Sir James Hallet, knt. died Jan. 31, 1703, aged 76.—October 1720, Dame Mary his wife, the daughter of Thomas Duncombe, esq., aged 72.—Nov. 1723, James Hallet, esq. their son, aged 38.—Aug. 1732, Ambrose, also son of James Hallet, esq., aged 20.—Feb. 1733, sir James Hallet, knt. aged 76.—Feb. 1755, Mary, widow of James Hallet, esq., and daughter of sir Ambrose Crawley, aged 67.—Feb. 1765, John, son of James Hallet, esq. aged 40.—April 1766, James Hallet, esq. his son, aged 56.—Oct. 1767, Mary, widow of the last James Hallet, esq. and daughter of James Pearce, esq. aged 48.—April 1780, Mary, the wife of William Hughes, esq. and

The ancient and whimsical tenure by delivery of a fitch of bacon, is peculiar to this town, and that of Whichnor, in Staffordshire. The custom is, by some writers, supposed to be of Saxon, by others of Norman origin; it was undoubtedly here, as at Whichnor, a burthen upon the estate, and the condition of some charter. The institution of it here may reasonably be supposed to have been by one of the family of Fitz-Walter. The earliest recorded delivery of the bacon was in 1444, when Richard Wright, of Bradbourn, in Norfolk, having been duly sworn before the prior and convent, had a fitch of bacon delivered to him, in conformity to the conditions of the tenure. The ceremonial required the claimant to kneel on two pointed stones in the church-yard, and, after solemn chanting and other rites performed, to take the following oath:—

' You shall swear, by custom of confession,
That you ne'er made nuptial transgression,
Nor since you were married man and wife,
By household brawls, or contentious strife,
Or otherwise, at bed or board,
Offended each other in deed or in word:
Or since the parish clerk said Amen,
Wished yourselves unmarried again;
Or in a twelvemonth and a day,
Repented, even in thought, anyway;

But continued true, in thought and desire,
As when you join'd hands in holy quire.
If to these conditions, without all fear,
Of your own accord, you will freely swear,
A whole fitch of bacon you shall receive,
And bear it hence, with love and good leave;
For this is our custom at Dunmow well
known,
Though the pleasure be ours, the bacon's
your own."

Then the pilgrim, as he was called, was taken up in a chair, on men's shoulders, and carried about the priory church-yard, and through the town, with his bacon borne before him, attended by all the friars, and by the townsfolk, with shouts and acclamations; and at last sent home in the same manner.

In the chartulary of the priory, now in the British Museum, three persons are recorded to have received the bacon previous to the dissolution of religious houses; and since that event, several instances have occurred of the observance of this custom, in which the ceremony was performed at a court-baron for the manor by the steward. One of these was at a court-baron of sir Thomas May, knt. holden the 7th day of June, 1701, the homage being five fair ladies, spinsters, who found that John Reynolds, of Hatfield Broadoak, gent. and Anne his wife, and William Parsley, of Great Easton, butcher, and Jane his wife, were fit persons to receive the bacon. The last that received it were John Shakeshanks, of Weathersfield, and his wife Anne, in 1751.

In 1821, the inhabitants of this parish amounted to three hundred and forty-two, and in 1831, had increased to three hundred and seventy-eight.

eldest daughter of the said John Hallet, esq.—Oct. 1794, Elizabeth, widow of the said John Hallet, esq. and only daughter of Richard Pinnell, esq., aged 68.—Feb. 1805, Elizabeth, third and youngest daughter of the said John Hallet, esq. aged 48.—May 1823, James Hallet, esq. his son, aged 78."

On a marble tablet, is the following inscription:—"The rev. Thomas Hambly, late incumbent of this parish, died April, 1802. He married Anne, second daughter of John Hallet, esq."

BOOK II.

EASTON.

Easton.

Two parishes, lying north-north-west from Dunmow, have received this name, and are distinguished from each other by the appellations of Little and Great. In records the name is Estames, Eiston, Eystanes, Eyston, Estaynes, Estaynys, Estones, and in Domesday, Estanes.

Little
Easton.

Little Easton* lies northward from Great Dunmow, and the pleasant country village which belongs to it is on the border of the river Chelmer, over which it is approached by a wooden bridge; the immediate vicinity, possessing a fruitful soil richly cultivated, is luxuriant in vegetable productions, and partakes of the beautiful scenery which distinguishes the elegant seat of lord Maynard, by the demesne lands of which it is surrounded. It is distant from Thaxted five, and from London forty miles.

The manorial history of this parish contains accounts of the progenitors of great and distinguished families of ancient origin. Previous to the Conquest, the holders of these lands were a freeman, and a free-woman, named Duna: at the survey, they belonged to William de Warren, and Geoffrey de Mandeville.

Even as early as the reign of the Conqueror, this lordship was holden of Windsor castle, by a family surnamed De Windsor. Walter de Windsor, castellan of Windsor, had a son named Robert, who was lord of the barony of Ewston, or Easton. William de Windsor was his son, whose only daughter, his heiress, was married to Robert de Hastings; and had by her Delicia, by whom this possession was conveyed to her husband, Henry de Cornhill, and afterwards to her second husband, Godfrey de Louvain, a valiant knight, brother to Henry, duke of Brabant, and his lieutenant of the honour of Eye, in Suffolk.† In 1262, Matthew de Louvain, son and heir of Godfrey, held

* It was also named Easton ad Turrim, or at the tower, because its church had a tower, and Great Easton had not.

† Godfrey, first duke of Lorraine and Brabant, count of Louvain, and marquis of Antwerp, married Ida, daughter of Henry, fourth emperor and fifth king of Germany; he was surnamed Barbatus, or the bearded, because he had made a vow never to cut his beard till he had added the duchy of Lorraine to his dominions: his son Godfrey, the second duke, married Litgarda, daughter of Berengarius, count of Zulzbach, by whom he had Godfrey, the third duke, who married Margaret, daughter of Henry, earl of Limburgh, and died in 1180; his son Henry was the fourth duke, and married Maud, grand-daughter of Stephen, king of England, by his daughter Mary, who had been a nun, and became abbess of Romsey, in Hampshire; afterwards married to Matthew, son of the earl of Flanders, who had by her two daughters, of whom Maud, the youngest, was married to the before-mentioned Henry, duke of Lorraine. Mary, the daughter of king Stephen, by consent of Henry the second, possessed all the lands of her father in England, amongst which was the honour of Eye, by marriage conveyed to the duke; to whom the possession of them was confirmed by king Richard the first. In the beginning of king John's reign, duke Henry made a grant of them to his brother Godfrey, who, on that account, came into England.—*Dugdale's Baronage*, vol. i. p. 736.

The descent of some of the most dignified families of Europe trace their ancestry to this original; and from Godfrey's elder brother Henry, fifth duke of Lorraine, the landgraves of Hesse descended. Ogiva, wife of Carolus Posthumus, surnamed, also, "the simple," was daughter of Edward, king of the West-Saxons.



this manor of the king, as head of this barony: Matthew was his son and successor; followed by Thomas, who died in 1345, and whose son John died in 1347, leaving by his wife Margaret, daughter and co-heiress of sir Thomas Weston, Alianore and Isabel. Margaret, their mother, died in 1349, and Isabel in 1359, leaving Alianore sole heiress to this and the other family estates, which she, by marriage, conveyed to sir William Bouchier, earl of Eu and of Essex, who died in 1483: William, his eldest son, who died before him, was succeeded by his grandson, Henry, earl of Essex, who, in 1540, was killed by a fall from his horse, at his manor of Basse, in Hertfordshire. His only daughter and heiress, Anne, was married to sir William Parr, baron Kendal, earl of Essex and marquis of Northampton, who sold this manor, with other estates, to sir William Wriothesley, lord chancellor. In 1558, it belonged to sir Kenelm Throckmorton; and to Kenelm Throckmorton, esq. in 1582: in 1589, it was granted, by queen Elizabeth, to Henry Maynard, esq.

The name of Mainard, or Maignard, is of great antiquity: a branch of the family was, at an early period, seated in Kent, and at Brixton, in Devonshire; Nicholas Maynard, of that place, married Margaret, daughter of John Ellys, of Ellys, in the same county, and had by her a son, named John; he also by a second wife, had another son of the same name. The younger of these, seated at St. Alban's, in Hertfordshire, was steward of that borough for life; and represented it in parliament in the year 1553, in which he was one of the thirty-nine members who absented themselves from the house, rather than admit the pope's authority in England. He died in 1556, having married, first, Margaret, daughter of Ralph Rowlet, esq. of St. Alban's and Sandridge, sister and co-heiress of sir Ralph Rowlet, by whom he had Ralph and two daughters. His second wife was Dorothy, daughter of Robert Perrot, esq. widow of John Bridge, and by her he had Henry, Robert, who died unmarried, and Dorothy, married to sir Robert Clarke, of Pleshey, one of the barons of the exchequer. Henry, the eldest son by the second marriage, was the first that settled here: he was secretary to sir William Cecil, lord Burleigh, and representative in parliament for the borough of St. Alban's in 1586, 1588, and 1597, and of the county of Essex in 1601; he served the office of sheriff in 1603, and in that year received the honour of knighthood from James the first. By his lady Susanna, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Pierson, esq. gentleman usher of the star-chamber, he had eight sons; William, his successor; John, made knight of the bath at the coronation of Charles

Maynard
family.

Of the same origin are also the ancient dukes of Suevia and Saxony, the landgrave of Thuringia, the counts of Flanders and Limburgh. The emperor Louis le Debonaire, married Judith, daughter of Welf, or Guelph, first count of Altorp, one of the earliest ancestors of the potent house of Brunswick; and this Judith was mother of the emperor Charles the bald.

Arms of Louvain: A fess between nine billets, five above and four below. Or, according to some accounts, fifteen billets, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1.

BOOK II. the first, who married Mary, daughter of sir Thomas Middleton, of Stansted Mont-fichet; Charles, one of the auditors of the exchequer; Francis, and two others; also two daughters; Elizabeth, married to sir Edward Bainton, of Bromham, in Wiltshire; and Mary, who was never married. Sir Henry died in 1610, and was succeeded by sir William, ~~the~~ eldest son, who was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge. He was in the list of the first baronets, which distinction was conferred upon him in 1611, and, in 1620, he was, by James the first, created baron Maynard of Wicklow, in Ireland; and, in 1627, by king Charles the first, further advanced to a baron of the realm, by the title of baron Maynard of Estaines Parva, otherwise Estaines ad Turrim, and Little Easton. His lordship died in 1640, and was buried near his father, in this church. He married, first, Frances, only daughter of William Cavendish, first earl of Devonshire of that family, and by this lady, who died in 1613, had his daughter Anne. By his second lady, Anne, daughter and heiress of sir Anthony Everard, of Great Waltham, he had William, the only son who survived him, and Susan and Jane, who died unmarried; Anne, married to sir Henry Wrothe, knt. of Durance, in Enfield, Middlesex; Elizabeth, married to John Wrothe, esq. of Loughton; and Mary, married to sir Ralph Bovey, knt. of Caxton and Longstone, in Cambridgeshire. William, the second lord, born in 1622, was of the privy council, and comptroller of the household to king Charles the second, and to king James the second, and custos rotulorum of this county. His first lady was Dorothy, daughter and sole heiress of sir Robert Banastre, knt. of Passenham, in Northamptonshire; and his second lady was Margaret, daughter of James Murray, earl of Dysart. By the first he had Banastre, and William, father of Thomas and Prescott Maynard, esqs. By his second lady he had Henry; and Elizabeth, married to sir Thomas Brograve, bart. of Hamels, in Hertfordshire. Banastre, the eldest son, on the decease of his father in 1698, succeeded as the third baron, and died in 1717, leaving, by his lady Elizabeth, only daughter of Henry de Grew, earl of Kent, eight sons and three daughters; Arabella, married to William Lowther, esq. of Swillington, in Yorkshire; Dorothy, to Robert Hesilrige, esq. of Noseley, in the county of Leicester, son of sir Robert Hesilrige, bart. and Elizabeth, who died unmarried. Henry, the eldest surviving son, succeeded his father in honours and estate, and dying unmarried in 1742, aged 70, was succeeded by his next brother Grey, lord Maynard, who also dying unmarried in 1745, aged 65, had for his successor his youngest brother, Charles lord Maynard, the sixth baron, who being the last male descendant of sir William, the first baron, aged and unmarried, was created, by patent, in 1766, baron Maynard of Much Easton, in the county of Essex, and viscount Maynard, with limitation, on failure of issue male of his body, to his third cousin, sir William Maynard, of Waltons, in the county of Essex, bart. great grandson of Charles, third son of Henry. The viscount died unmarried in 1775, when the



baronetcy, and English and Irish baronies created in 1620, and 1628, became extinct, but the titles conferred in 1766, devolved on the late viscount, eldest son and heir of sir William Maynard, of Waltons.

CHAP.
IX.

The line of descent of the present family is from Charles Maynard, third son of sir Henry, and brother of the first lord. He was auditor of the exchequer in the time of Charles the second, and died in 1665, leaving his son William, created a baronet in 1681, and father of sir William and sir Henry, successively baronets, of whom the last-named was father of sir William, to whom the remainder of the titles of viscount and baron Maynard were granted, in 1766. This sir William Maynard, born in 1721, married Charlotte, second daughter of sir Cecil Bisshopp, of Parham, in the county of Sussex, bart. and dying in 1772, left issue by her Charles, who succeeded, on the death of his cousin in 1775, to the title of viscount Maynard, being the second viscount. The second son of sir William was Henry, rector of Radwinter, and vicar of Stansted, in Essex, who died in 1806, leaving Harriet, Susan, and Marianne; and Henry, present and third viscount. Heir apparent, Charles Henry, the viscount's only son.*

This ancient, stately, and commodious mansion, is pleasantly situated within a spacious park, and the surrounding grounds are highly ornamented and picturesque. The prospect from the house northward presents an interesting view of the noble church and spire of Thaxted; and within this circuit are included a wide extent of lands belonging to the lordship, with four parochial churches. The house was erected in the latter part of the reign of Elizabeth, and is distinguished by large projecting windows, and other peculiarities, which characterise the architecture of that period; at more recent periods, however, important improvements have been made, and considerable alterations. At the east end there is a handsome chapel, built by William lord Maynard, in 1621; its eastern window is of stained glass, displaying the principal events of the history of our Saviour.

Easton
lodge.

The ancient church is kept in an excellent state of repair, chiefly by the munificence of its noble patrons, whose ancestors are interred in the chapel on the south side of the chancel.

Church.

The parsonage is a good building of brick, erected by the rev. J. Pincet, when rector here. A convenient house for the clerk of this parish was given by Charles lord Maynard, to be kept in repair by his lordship's successors, owners of the manor.†

* Arms of Maynard: Argent, a chevron azure between three sinister hands couped at the wrist, gules. Crest: A stag statant, or. Supporters: Dexter, a stag proper attired, or. Sinister, a talbot argent pied sable, collared gules. Motto: "Manus justa nardus. The just hand is as precious ointment."

† Charity:—In 1662, dame Margaret Banastre, widow of sir Robert Banastre, left an annuity of twenty pounds for the maintenance of four poor women of the parish of Little Easton, five pounds to be paid to each of them by quarterly payments. Her grandson, Banastre lord Maynard, in addition to this benevolent provision for the said poor women, built houses for their habitation, with provision for their being kept in sufficient repair.

Charity.

BOOK II.

Inscriptions.

A handsome chapel on the south side of the chancel, called Bouchier's chapel, and formerly belonging to some of the family of that name, has been made the burial-place of the Maynards, and contains numerous splendid and appropriate monuments, with inscriptions, amongst which are the following:—

"*Quem fuerim qualemque fui me curia novit:
Plebs, proceres, principes, patria, testis erat.
Hos de me (Lector) non marmore consule: famæ
Saxa nihil tribuunt ambitiosa mea.*

|| Whence, who, and what I was, how held at Court,
My prince, the peers, my country, will report.
Ask these of me (good reader) not these stones,
They knew my life, these do but hold my bones."

"Here resteth in assured hope to rise in Christ, sir Henry Maynard, knt. descended of the ancient family of Maynard, in the county of Devon, and dame Susan his wife, daughter and one of the co-heirs of Thomas Pierson, esq. to whom she bore eight sonnes and two daughters. He ended this life 11th of May, 1610, his lady, six sons, and two daughters, then living; as is expressed in the following lines: .

"*Sex natos natasq. duas charissima nuper
Pignora, mortem obiens cum matre superstitute liqui:
Tres me de natis morientem extemplo sequuntur:*

|| *Tam breve, tam vanum, tam vitæ fulgur inane
Ne tam multum viduus, ne cœlum solus adirem:
Ecce meos comites, me cætera turba sequetur."*

"Translation:—"At my death I left with their surviving mother six sons and two daughters, pledges, lately, which I loved most tenderly: soon after my decease, so short, so vain, so empty is the lamp of life, three of them followed me, that I might not go to heaven quite a widower and alone. Behold, my companions, the rest will follow me."

"Rare was the roote, the branches bravely spred,
And some still are, though some be withered,
Two of the precious ones (a pitcous spoil)
Were ill transplanted to a foreign soil.

|| Where the hot sunne, (howe'er it did befall)
Drew up their juice, to perfume heaven withall.
When will the heaven such flowers to the earth repay,
As the earth afforded heaven, two in a day."

"Here lyeth the lady Maynard, wife unto sir William Maynard, knt. and bart. and sole daughter of William lord Cavendish, and of Anne, his first wife. She died 1st of Sept. 1613, aged 20. As her life was most virtuous and religious, so was her end no less christian and saint-like. She left behind her one daughter, named Anne, to the care of her truly grieved husband, for the unspeakable loss of so loving a wife."

"*M.S. D. Dni Gulielmi Maynard de Estaines, in com. Essex, necnon de Wicklow, in Hibernia, baronis honoratissimi. Qui serenissimi Caroli primi in comitatu Essexiæ et Cantabrigiæ locum-tenens constitutus. Provinciam hanc per plures annos ingenti et regis et populi applausu adornavit, conscientia etiam sua apud utrosque inculpabili, dignissimi nimirum qui principis, et pacis, et legum, et fidel Catholico-Anglicanæ defensoris vices in omnibus suppleret. At vero ingruenti indies fanaticorum rabie, cum religio etiam ipsa exularet, inquietæ, rebelli, et ingratiæ valedixit; patriæ tanto (tam in deum, quam in proximum) charitatis verè christianæ exemplari prorsus indignæ, quem tandem pro meliore nempe cælesti feliciter committavit 10 Dec. 1640, ætat. suæ 55.—Juxta jacet Hannah conjux honoratissima, ex antiqua Everardorum familia de Langleys in com. Essex oriunda. Quæ postquam filium unicum et quinq. filias egregias utriusque parentis virtutibus quibus ad invidiam usq. excelluerunt adornatos videat, maritum denuo ad cœlos sequuta est; amabili ibidem et beatissimo ipsius consortio inter sanctos iterum fruitura, 5to die Aug. A. D. 1647."*

English,—“Sacred to the memory of the right honourable William lord Maynard, baron of Estaines, in the county of Essex, and of Wicklow, in Ireland. He for many years executed the office of lord lieutenant of the counties of Essex and Cambridge, under king Charles the first, with great applause both of king and people, and with a conscience unblameable. In every respect, indeed, he was a man calculated to supply the place of the most worthy prince, of the defender of the peace, the laws, and the Catholic faith, as professed by the church of England. But when the rage of fanaticism daily encreased, when even religion

itself was banished, then he bid adieu to a restless, rebellious, and ungrateful country; so great an example was he of truly Christian love (as well towards God as towards his neighbour), to his unworthy country, which at length he happily changed for a better, namely, a heavenly, on the 10th of Dec. 1640, in the 55th year of his age.—Near him lies his wife, his right honourable wife, descended from the ancient family of the Everards, of Langleys, in the county of Essex, who after she had seen an only son and five excellent daughters adorned with their parents' virtues, which they so excelled in as to excite the envy of mankind, followed her husband to heaven, there to enjoy again his amiable and most happy company among the saints, on the 5th of August in the year of our Lord 1647.

“ Within this vault lie interred the bodies of the right hon. William lord Maynard, who died Feb. 3, 1698, aged 76: and of the lady Dorothy his wife, daughter of sir Robert Banastre, knt. who died October 30, 1649, aged 27: and of the right hon. Banastre lord Maynard, their son, who died March 4, 1717, aged 76: and of the lady Elizabeth Grey, his wife, the daughter of Henry, earl of Kent, who died Sept. 24, 1714: and of the hon. William Maynard, their eldest son, who died unmarried March 8, 1716, aged 50: and of the right hon. Henry lord Maynard, their next surviving son, who died unmarried Dec. 7, 1742, aged 70: and of the right hon. Grey lord Maynard, the successor of his brother Henry, who died unmarried April 27, 1745, aged 65: and of the hon. Elizabeth Maynard, the sister, who died also unmarried, October 4, 1720, aged 43. To the memory of all these his most worthy ancestors, parents, brothers, and sister, by whose care, and through whose hands the honours and estates of the family, after a splendid, hospitable, and charitable use of them, have successively been transmitted to him the right hon. Charles lord Maynard (the youngest son of Banastre lord Maynard, and of the lady Elizabeth his wife), in testimony of his piety, love, and gratitude, erected this monument, A.D. 1746.”

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to three hundred and three, and in 1831, had increased to three hundred and fifty.

GREAT EASTON.

This parish extends northward from Little Easton, and the village, which is small, is near the eastern bank of the Chelmer. It has been named Easton ad Montem, either from a small mount on which the church is situated, or from a similar elevation near the Hall. The soil is in general light and productive, the situation pleasant and healthy, and the roads good. From Thaxted it is distant seven, and from London forty miles.

Great
Easton.

Previous to the Conquest, the lands of this parish were in possession of Achins, a freeman; and at the time of the survey, belonged to Matthew Mauritiensis, or Moriam. In the time of Richard the first, William de Clinton held this estate by the sergeantry of being the king's larderer at his coronation; and it was in possession

Manor.

* The last lord of the Boufchier family of this place is buried under an ancient monument of grey marble, without inscription, as appears from a passage in Sandford's Genealog. p. 85: “ Isabel, countess of Essex, only daughter of Richard, earl of Cambridge, was married to Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex and Viscount Bouchier; by whom he had a numerous issue. The tomb of this Henry and Isabel is placed between the chancel and Bowser's, (i.e. Boucher's) aisle or chapel of Little Easton, in the county of Essex.” There is also in the chancel, a very ancient monument in the north wall, under an arch, surmounted by a pyramid: it has no inscription, but the arms are those of Bouchier and Louvaine.

BOOK II. of Ralph le Moyne*, by the same tenure, in the reign of Henry the third. William, son of Ralph, had Henry le Moyne, who died in 1314, and his wife, Joan, died in 1340. Their son and successor was John le Moyne, the time of whose death is not mentioned. The next on record is sir Henry Moyne, who at the time of his decease, in 1375, held this manor by knight's service: his son and successor, sir John, left a daughter named Elizabeth, who was married to sir William Stourton, and conveyed to him this estate, with the advowson of the church. This family derived their name from the town so called, on the banks of the river Stour, in Wiltshire, and were seated there from a very remote period. He held this manor by the grand serjeantry beforementioned. His son and heir, sir John, was created lord Stourton, in 1447, and died in 1462, holding this manor, with the advowson of the church: his successors were, William lord Stourton, John, William, Edward, William, and Charles. This last being guilty of murder, and executed for it in 1557, his estates passed to the crown; but this manor had been previously disposed of, and was in possession of sir Ralph Warren, lord mayor of London, at the time of his decease, in 1553; it was also holden by his son Richard, who died in 1597, and left this estate to his sister's son, Oliver Cromwell, esq. of Hinchingbroke, who sold it to Henry Maynard, esq., from whom it has descended to the present lord Maynard.

Stourton family.

Blamsters An estate named Blamsters, vulgarly, Blansted Hall, belonged to William de Blamster, who died in 1280, leaving this estate to his daughter Beatrix, from whom it passed to her sisters and heiresses, Eleanor le Strange, Joan, married to sir William de Barentyne, and Maude the wife of sir William de Bracey. In 1499, George Pakeman held this estate under William lord Stourton, as of his manor of Great Easton; Margaret and Elizabeth, daughters of his brother Thomas, were his co-heiresses. In 1602, it belonged to Richard Jennings, esq., and passed afterwards to the Kendal family of Bassingbourns, in Takeley; of whom it was purchased by John Taleure, esq., remembrancer of the exchequer, from whom it passed to his descendants; and has become the property of William Josling, esq. of Great Easton.

Tiltey abbey had a grange or farm here, named Croys, which, after the dissolution, was granted to James Gunter and William Lewis, from whom it was conveyed to William Fitch, who sold it to John Meade, of Henham;† in whose family it continued

* The first of this family was Geoffrey le Moyne, lord of Oreshampton, succeeded by sir Robert; and a second sir Robert, father of Robert, and grandfather of this Ralph.

† Of his three sons, John, Robert, and George, the last had Nortofts, in Finchingfield: John succeeded his father on his decease in 1602, having married Ellen, daughter of Nicholas Colin, of Broxted, by whom he had Thomas, of Henham, whose son John was of Matching. John, to whom he gave Dutton Hill, in this parish: also Robert and William: he died in 1614. John, of Dutton Hill, his second son, married Jane, daughter of John Glascock, of Roxwell, by whom he had his son and heir John Meade, who marrying Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Robert Samford, of Chapel, had by her fourteen children, of whom there survived, on his decease in 1664, John, Robert, Philip, William; Elizabeth, Anne, and Esther.

till the failure of heirs male, on the decease of John Meade, of London, merchant, who died in 1689: and of his daughters, Anne in 1758, aged 87, and Elizabeth in 1761, aged 85; they having previously sold to Henry, the youngest brother of their father, the estate of Dutton Hill, where he, in 1721, built a handsome brick mansion, enjoyed by his wife on his decease, and which became the inheritance of his daughter Elizabeth.

CHAP.
IX.Dutton
Hill.

Church.

The church of Great Easton, dedicated to St. John, is a plain ancient building, in an excellent state of repair; and situated on a hill, is seen at a considerable distance from various parts of the country. Its southern porch has a semi-circular arch.*

In 1821, this parish contained seven hundred and fifty-five, and in 1831, eight hundred and forty inhabitants.

TILTEY.

The parish of Tiltey extends northward from Great Easton, and joins to Broxton, Linsell, and Thaxted. The village contains few inhabitants, the increase of the population of the parish not having exceeded twenty during the last forty years. Distance from Dunmow three, and from London forty miles.

Tiltey.

* Among the inscriptions in this church are the following: "Joseph Plume, B.D. rector, died January 16, 1686, aged 81. George Scott, esq. who died Jan. 16, 1647. Joan, wife of George Scott, esq. with their son and daughter, twins, buried in 1721. Thomas Leader, rector, died 27th June, 1618."

Inscrip-
tions.

On a brass plate: "Dum libris vivo, morior: sic vita mihi mors. Nunc vitæ evoluo librum: sic mors mihi vita.—Mortalitatis exuvie viri immortalis Thomæ Cecilii, rectoris, dum vixit, hujus ecclesiæ dignissimi, summi Theologi, morum candore, vitæ integritate, artium literarumque peritia, viri insigniter ornati, sub hoc tumulo reconduntur. Ob. Jan. 29, 1627." In English:—

"Whilst I live to my books, I die: thus
Life to me is death.

|| Now I turn over the book of life: thus
Death is to me life."

"Under this tomb are deposited the mortal remains of that immortal man, Thomas Cecil, the very worthy rector of this church whilst he lived, a most excellent theologian, and a man endowed in an especial degree with simplicity of manners, integrity of life, and knowledge in arts and literature. He died January 29, 1627."

Among those of the Meade family, are the following: "John Meade, of Dutton Hill, who died in 1614, aged 67. Jane, wife of John Meade, of Dutton Hill, in 1626; John, eldest son of the said John and Jane, in 1666, aged 84. Mrs. Ann Meade, daughter and co-heiress of John Meade, esq. of London; and Mrs. Sarah Meade, his wife; she died 2d Jan. 1758, aged 87. Mrs. Rebecca Meade, sister to the above, who died Jan. 20, 1761, aged 85, and others of the same family."

Charities.—Mrs. Rebecca Meade founded a charity school in 1759, for ten poor girls; endowed with lands in this parish, named Kirby's, which, being copyhold, was enfranchised by lord Maynard; also two fields called Cronehill, or Cramps, in Weathersfield: and as an appendage to this charity, Charles lord Maynard, in 1761, gave an annuity of five pounds, payable out of Great Easton Hall farm, for a school-master to teach twelve poor boys of Great and Little Easton. A house and field have been given by an unknown benefactor, for the use of the poor.—In 1761, a messuage or tenement, with appertinances, was given for the use of the parish clerk, by Charles lord Maynard, to be at all times kept in sufficient repair, by his lordship's heirs and assigns.

Charities.

BOOK II.

Previous to the Conquest, this parish belonged to a thane named Doding; and to Henry de Ferrers at the survey: under whose descendants, earls of Nottingham, it was held by a family named Geoffrey, who had possession under Henry the first; Maurice Fitz-Geoffrey held it in the time of king Stephen; and he, in 1133, founded an abbey here for Cistercian monks: it was dedicated to St. Mary, and the founder endowed it with his "whole land of this parish without exception." It had also other large endowments.* Their church was consecrated in 1221, at which time large grants were made to them in Thaxted, Dunmow, and various other places. After the suppression, in 1542, Henry the eighth granted the site of the monastery, and the church, belfry, and chapel; a mansion called the founder's lodging, and the guest hall; Tiltey grange;† the manor of Tiltey, and other possessions of the abbey, to sir Thomas lord Audley, of Walden, and his heirs.‡ Margaret, his daughter and heiress, conveyed this with her other very large inheritance, to her two husbands, Henry Dudley, slain at St. Quintin in 1557; and Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk. By the last, she had Thomas, created earl of Suffolk, who sold this estate to Henry Maynard, esq. ancestor of the lords Maynard, of Easton, to whom it has descended.

Abbey.

The remains of Tiltey abbey, which are in the open field between the church and the mill, consist of traces of foundations, and considerable remains of a wall, said to have been part of the cloisters. On the wall may still be seen the semi-circular arches from which the groins sprung. The situation is very interesting, being a valley surrounded by pleasant hills, and watered by a stream, the banks of which are skirted by what is termed Tiltey Wood.

Church.

The present church, which is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, formed the east end of the abbey church, and presents a remarkably fine specimen of what has been termed the decorative style of English architecture. It has bold buttresses at the east angles, with two rich niches, which are in a curious situation, being partly on the buttresses and partly on the wall. At the east end is a very beautiful window of five lights, with peculiarly elegant tracery. There is also a fine window of three lights on the north side. The chancel contains some rich stalls. The roof is tiled, and a cupola above contains one bell.

Monuments.

The monuments in Tiltey church are curious. On the floor of the nave a flat stone, which it is probable was formerly inlaid with brass or some other metal, appears, from

* Some writers have confounded this with the monastery of Bicknacre, in Woodham Ferrers; probably misled by the title given to it in the *Monasticon*, of Tilteyensis Abbatia, alias Wudeham: the two houses were also founded by the same person, Maurice Fitz-Geoffrey, but at different times.—*Monasticon*, vol. i. p. 889.—*Bishop Tanner*, p. 129.—*Newcourt*, vol. ii. p. 600.

† Cistercian monks had granges, or barns, having larger crops of corn than other religious orders, consequence of pope Paschal the second and Hadrian the fourth having discharged the lands held in their own hands from payment of tithes.

‡ Arms of Tiltey abbey: Argent, on a cross gules, five fleurs-de-lis, or.

the cavities, which are deeply cut, to have contained an ornamented cross. In a border, round the edge of the stone, is the following inscription, in very old Gothic characters:—

“MAHAVD DE MORTEMER GIST ICI 1185 PVK ET DATE E MISERICORDE DE SA ALME”

On the south side of the chancel, on a flat stone, are the effigies in brass of a man in a suit of plate armour, his wife, five sons, and six daughters; at each corner of the stone a shield of arms, and round the ledge the following inscription in black letter:—

“Hic jacet sepultus, cum conjuge Maria, Gerardus Danet de Broukynsthorp in comitatu Lecestric, armiger et serenissimi Regis Henrici octavi Consiliarius: obiit anno a Christo nato millesimo quingentesimo xx. die mensis Maii quarto, et anno Regni predicti Regis Henrici xij. quorum animab' propicietur Deus.” That is—“Here lies buried, with his wife Maria, Gerard Danet, of Broukynsthorp, in the county of Leicester, esq. and counsellor of king Henry the eighth: he died in the year of our Lord one thousand five hundred and twenty, on the fourth day of May, and the twelfth year of the reign of the aforesaid king Henry; to whose soul may God be propitious.”*

On the north side of the chancel, on a flat stone, are the effigies, in brass, of a man in plate armour, his wife, three sons, and two daughters, with the following inscription in black letter:—

“Herevnder lyeth buryed, with Mary his wyfe, George Medeley, of Tyltey, in the covntyce of Essex, esquier, which decessed the one and twentyth daye of Maye, in the yere of oure Lord God one thowsand fyve hundredth threscore and two, and in the fower and fyfeth yere of hys age.”†

The two following inscriptions, also, either are or were in the church.

Within the communion rails, the effigies, in brass, of a woman kneeling, with three male children, three female, and three in swaddling clothes; beneath them:—

“Here lyeth buried the body of Margaret Tuke, wife unto George Tuke, of Layer Marney, in Essex, who died 22d Oct. 1590.”

In the middle of the church, on a plate of brass, on the floor:—

“ Abbas famosus bonus et vivendo probatus, In Thakely natus qui jacet hic tumultus,		Thomas dictatus qui Xto sit sociatus Rite gubernavit istumque locum peramavit.”
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e. “The well-known and good abbot, of approved life, born at Thakely, who lies here buried, by name Thomas, (may he be now with Christ) ruled righteously, and exceedingly loved this place.”

In 1821, this parish contained seventy-eight, and in 1831, eighty-two inhabitants.‡

* Arms: Guteé a canton; with several impalements and quarterings.—Salmon incorrectly reads the name *Dant*.

† Arms: Barry on a chief three mullets pierced.

‡ Charity.—The right hon. Charles lord Maynard settled a house, with appurtenances, on the parish clerk, and his successors for ever, in the same manner as at the Eastons.

THAXTED.

Thaxted.

The ancient town of Thaxted is on the borders of the river Chelmer, near its source. It is of considerable extent, containing many good houses, and there is a large and handsome chapel here, belonging to the Dissenters of the denomination of Independents. The road from Chelmsford to Cambridge passes through this town, which is a considerable thoroughfare: formerly it was a borough, incorporated by charter from Philip and Mary, its government being vested in a mayor, bailiff, and chief burgesses. This charter was confirmed by queen Elizabeth, and additional privileges granted by James the first; but all these were tamely given up, either through fear or poverty, by the corporate officers, who, on being served with a *quo warranto* in the time of James the second, thought fit to retire from their offices in silence. From a visitation of the heralds in 1637, it appears to have had at that time a mayor, recorder, two bailiffs, and about twenty principal burgesses, of which ten had passed the mayoralty; they had a common seal, but no arms. The market, which had been discontinued, was some time ago revived, but it has not risen to importance. It is on Thursdays; and there is a fair on the twenty-seventh of May, and another on the tenth of August, for cattle. It is distant from Dunmow six, and from London forty-seven miles.

The earliest account of this town is in the *Monasticon*,* which informs us that the college of St. John the Baptist, at Clare, in Suffolk, founded by Eluric, in Edward the confessor's time, had the church of Thaxted among other revenues; at which time this lordship belonged to Wisgar, but was taken from him by the Conqueror, and given to Richard, son of Gislebert, and grandson of Geoffrey, natural son of Richard, first duke of Normandy of that name. Coming over with the Conqueror, to whom he was related, he had, besides other extensive possessions, the lordship of Clare, in Suffolk, from which the family took the surname of De Clare.† Richard Fitz-Gislebert marrying Rohaise, daughter of Walter Gifford, earl of Buckingham, had Gilbert, his successor, the first earl of Clare; who marrying Adeliza, daughter of the earl of Clermont, had by her Richard, Gilbert, Hervey, Walter, and Rohaise. Richard, the eldest son, married Adeliza, sister of Ranulph, earl of Chester, by whom he had Gilbert, Roger, and Alice, married to Cadwallader ap Grifith, prince of North Wales. Gilbert, eldest son of Richard, dying without issue in 1151, his brother Roger succeeded, and married Maud, daughter of James de St. Hilary: his son, Richard de Clare, earl of Hertford, married Amicia, daughter of William, earl of Gloucester,

* Vol. i. p. 1009.

† A full account is given of this powerful family in Mat. Paris, ed. 1640, p. 262, 995, &c.; they were very actively opposed to king John, and Henry the third. Richard, earl of Clare, was the first of the twenty-five barons, conservators of Magna Charta.



who was heiress of that earldom; and their son Gilbert, earl of Gloucester and Hertford, married Isabel, third daughter of William Marshal, earl of Pembroke. Richard was his son and heir, who died in 1262, suspected to have been poisoned at the table of Peter de Savoy, the queen's uncle: Gilbert de Clare, surnamed "the red," was his son and heir, who married Alice, daughter of Guy, earl of Angoulesme, niece to king Henry the third. This lady becoming lunatic, he was divorced from her in 1285, having granted her the manor of Thaxted, and other possessions. He married, secondly, Joan of Acres, daughter of king Edward the first, by whom he had Gilbert, Eleanor, Margaret, and Elizabeth; on his decease in 1295, his lady had to her second husband Ralph de Monthermer, a plain esquire. Gilbert de Clare, surnamed "the red," her son by her first husband, was earl of Clare, Hertford and Gloucester; being then under age, he had not livery of his lands till 1307, when he was obliged to give satisfaction to the king. He was slain in 1314, at the battle of Bannockburn, where he commanded the van-guard of the English army. His son John, by Maud, daughter of John de Burgh, died before him, and in consequence his three sisters became his co-heiresses.* Eleanor, married to Hugh le Despenser, the younger: Margaret, to Piers de Gaveston; afterwards to Hugh de Audley, in 1337 created earl of Gloucester; and Elizabeth, married to John de Burgh, son and heir of Richard, earl of Ulster; married, secondly, to Theobald de Verdun; and, thirdly, to Roger Damory, who was summoned to parliament in the reign of Edward the second. He was taken prisoner at the battle of Borough-bridge, with the earl of Lancaster, and his lands seized by the king; but his life was spared for the sake of his lady.

In the reign of Edward the second, Bartholomew lord Badlesmere having married Margaret, eldest daughter of Thomas, brother of Gilbert de Clare, had liberty of free warren, and of holding an annual fair here on the eve, the day, and the morrow of St. Luke, and was made constable of Tunbridge castle: joining the discontented barons, he lost this and his other estates, and was beheaded in 1321. But by the favour of Edward the third, his son Giles recovered his estates and honours; he married Elizabeth, daughter of William de Montacute, earl of Salisbury, but left no issue; and this manor was equally divided among his four sisters, who all married into noble families.† Three parts of the estate became the property of the Mortimers, earls of March, and were re-united to the honour of Clare, which had been conveyed by marriage to this family;‡ the remaining fourth part descending to the Le Despensers, derived from

* Arms of the Clare family: Or, three chevronels, gules.

† Margery, married to William lord Roos, of Hamlake; Maud, to John de Vere, earl of Oxford; Elizabeth, to Edmund Mortimer, earl of March; and, after his death, to William de Bohun, earl of Northampton; and Margaret, to Sir John Tibetot.

‡ Roger Mortimer, the first earl of March, married Joan, daughter and heiress of Peter Geneville, lord of Mede, Vaucolour, and Trim, in Ireland.—*Vincent*, p. 325. The Mortimers afterwards quartered the

BOOK II. them its name of Spencer's fee. On the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter of Edward the fourth, to Henry the seventh, the honour of Clare reverted to the crown, and was settled, by Henry the eighth, on Katharine of Arragon, afterwards his queen, who, in 1514, granted the manor and borough of Thaxted to sir John Cutts,* knt. to hold during her life, under a rent; and soon afterwards the reversion in fee-farm was granted by the king to the same knight. His son of the same name died in 1528, holding his father's estates; but sir John Cutts, his son and heir, on his decease in 1554, had considerably diminished the family possessions; and the succeeding sir John, his son, being remarkable for unbounded hospitality and a magnificent style of living, his affairs became embarrassed,† and he was obliged, in 1599, to vest the manor and borough of Thaxted in trust to Thomas Kemp, esq. who had previously purchased the estate of Coldham's fee, in this parish. Thaxted soon afterwards became the property of sir William Smijth, knt. of Hill Hall, in whose family it has remained to the present time.

Parish. The parish is large, and comprehends the northern extremity of the hundred, bounded by Uttlesford and Freshwell: besides that of the borough or town, there are six other manors.

Horam Hall. The manor-house of Horam Hall is nearly two miles distant from the church south-westward; it is a venerable and stately edifice, and a valuable and interesting specimen of the style of domestic architecture which immediately succeeded the ancient castellated mode; and as in the more ancient arrangement, the castellated form was for use, in this we find towers, turrets, and battlements added to houses merely for ornament. If even there were no historical evidence of the time this building was erected, it would yet be generally believed to have been immediately preceding, or early in the reign of Elizabeth; and it is remarkable that the chief front exhibits the greatest

arms of Geneville, as they are found in this church. Arms of Mortimer: Barry of six, or and azure, on a chief of the first three pallets between two base esquisses, dexter and sinister as the second: an inescutcheon, ermine.

* Leland gives the following account of this family. "Syr John Cutte, knight, and undre treasurer of England, bought of one Savelle, a man of fair land's in Yorkshir, then beyng yn trouble, the lordship of Godhurste, with the ruines of a castelle that standith aboute a 2 miles from the bank of Medwaye river, and 2 miles from Maidstone.... Old Cutte macried the doughter and heyre of one Roodes, about Yorkshir, and had by her a 3 hunderith markes of lands by the yere.... Old Cutte buildid Horeham-haule, a very sumptuous house in Est Sax, by Thaxtede, and there is a goodly pond, or lake, by it, and faire parkes thereabout. Cutte buildid at Childerley, in Cambridgshir.... Cutte buildid at Salsbiry-park, by St. Alban's.... Young Cutte, sun and heire to old Cutte, married one, and by her, by the procurement of my lady Lucy."—*Itiner.* vol. iv. p. 30, part i. Arms of Cutts: Argent, on a bend engrailed, sable, three plates.

† He rendered himself so remarkable for his housekeeping, that queen Elizabeth sent the Spanish ambassador to be entertained by him, during a fit of sickness. The tower of Horam Hall was used by Elizabeth as an agreeable retirement and place of refuge, during a part of the reign of her sister Mary; and often, after she succeeded to the crown, as a place which she took pleasure in visiting.



variety of architectural forms, in which all uniformity of opposite parts has been studiously avoided. The stately tower, the projecting gable, notched; the square embattled turret, with double windows, with another turret of larger dimensions, and ornamented windows, the whole height of the building; and, lastly, a plain bay window of two stories, above which there is an ornamental gable. In some of its parts this building bears a striking resemblance to detached parts of Gosfield Hall; but in the same degree that uniformity has been avoided in this structure, in that more ancient edifice it has been carefully observed. In 1262, the heirs of Walter de Acre held lands here, which are believed to have been this manor; and William de Wanton, who died in 1347, held the same, which his son William also held as three knights' fees, of the honour of Clare.

The next recorded possessor was sir John Cutt, or Cutts, who held it of the queen, as of her honour of Stambourne, by fealty and suit of court. The mansion-house was erected by sir John, from whom the estate passed to sir Charles Smijth, with the capital manor.

This manor, holden in 1262, under the earl of Clare, by William Beaucondre, was named Beauconders, and consisted of a knight's fee; his successor was Richard Beaucondre, who died in 1398, succeeded by Ralph, son of Roger, who is stated to have been a benefactor to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem: Nicholas Richmond was the next possessor on record, and his name has been retained by the estate, which became the property of sir John Cutts, by the name of Richmonds, at Richmond Green: it was holden by Nicholas Fuller in 1528, and, in 1590, was sold, by sir John Cutts, to William Godfrey. It afterwards belonged to Richard Beale, esq. of Hale Place, in Kent, who died in 1712, and left it to his nephew, Alexander Beale, who sold it to Guy's Hospital, also Thaxted Lodge. The mansion of Richmonds is half a mile from the church south-eastward.

Rich-
monds.

The family of Fitz-Ralph gave their name to a manor here, which belonged to William Chishul, esq. in 1570, who dying that year, left it to his son Giles, of whom it was purchased by Israel Owen, who died in 1632, and left John, his son. This estate afterwards belonged to Henry Wale, esq. of Little Bardfield.

Fitz-
Ralph.

The manor named Venors, or Vernors, anciently belonged to Tiltey Abbey, and was denominated a grange. It was granted, by Henry the eighth, to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, in 1538, who the same year sold it to John Wiseman; and he, in 1551, conveyed it to Matthias Bradbury, of whom it was purchased, in 1552, by John Wiseman; and he, in 1569, sold it to George Meade. This estate, about twenty years after, belonged to the Pigot family, who retained possession till 1640, after which it became the property of the Fenn family.

Vernors.

The reputed manor named Stanfold-garden was in possession of sir John Cutts, at the time of his death in 1520, holden by him of Henry Turnor.

Stanfold-
garden.

BOOK II.

Gerdelay.

Gerdelay, named in Domesday Gerdelai, was reckoned a hamlet to Thaxted: under Edward the confessor, it was holden by two freemen, and at the survey belonged to Tihel Brito, whose descendants, surnamed De Helion, retained possession, till it was conveyed, by William de Helion, to Aubrey de Vere, earl of Oxford in the reign of Henry the second; and some under tenants of that noble family took the surname of Yerdley, or Yardley, from this place. Their names appear in the records from the time of Henry the third to Henry the seventh; and John Yardley, attainted in the first year of king Richard the third, had his lands in Thaxted seized on that occasion. In 1558, it belonged to John Wiseman, esq. of Felsted, and continued in his family till the decease of Wiseman Clagget, esq. in 1741, when it was purchased of his executors by Charles lord Maynard. Goddards farm is a valuable estate in this parish, formerly belonging to the Wale family.

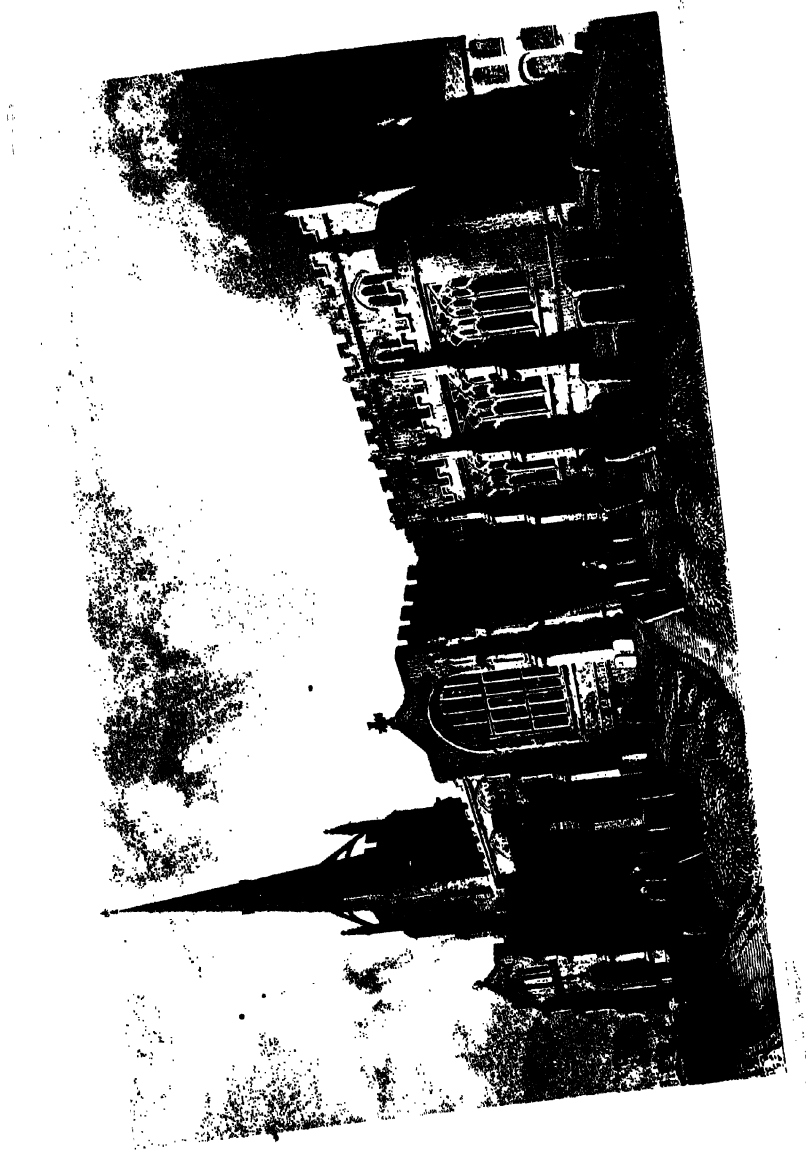
Church.

It is not certainly known at what time this church was erected, but is believed to have been at various times, and completed about the close of the fourteenth century. Different writers have spoken of it as dedicated to St. John the Baptist, the Virgin Mary, and to St. Lawrence; but all these assertions remain unauthorised.

It seems most probable, from various authorities, that the expense of this erection was defrayed partly by parochial assessments, partly by public and private contributions, and partly by the patronage of the illustrious house of Clare and their descendants. It is true, none of the rates or other accounts respecting the first rise of this building are now extant; but as four churchwardens are mentioned during its erection, we may conclude the appointment of this extraordinary number to have been for the receipt of contributions and management of the accounts. During the same period, also, many donations of land are recorded, some expressly left in trust to the four churchwardens, and others to the same number of trustees; the portions of land referred to are also stated to have been soon afterwards sold; undoubtedly, to raise the necessary supplies for carrying on the undertaking. The number of armorial bearings on the roof (some of which belong to families resident in Thaxted) serve to confirm this account. As early as the reign of Edward the confessor, the church of Thaxted belonged to the collegiate church of Clare, which, in 1090, was annexed to the abbey of Bec, in Normandy; and its having belonged to the college of Clare previous to this appropriation, leaves us no longer at a loss to account for its beauty and magnificence.* It is universally allowed to be the finest specimen of ecclesiastical

	<i>ft. in.</i>		<i>ft. in.</i>
Width of the nave	21 6	Width of the transept	20 4
Length of ditto	89 0	Length of the chancel	49 8
Width of the nave and side aisle	23 10	Width of the middle	17 0
Length of the transept	86 0	Ditto of the sides	25 6

Whole building in length 183, in breadth 87 feet, in the inside. The elegant steeple and spire rises to the height of 181 feet; the tower being 80 feet. The circumference of the building, including the projections of the buttresses, is 345 yards.



architecture in the county. The whole fabric is embattled, and supported by strong buttresses, terminated by canopied niches, crowned with purfled pinnacles of curious workmanship; on each buttress, below the niches, carved heads of grotesque appearance form water-spouts. The original windows are large and elegant, and ornamented with tracery and painted glass.

It has already been observed, that the time of the building of this church is not certainly known, yet it is conjectured that it could not have been earlier than some time in the reign of Henry the third, but more probably in that of Edward the second. First, because the benefactions of the inhabitants of Thaxted to the neighbouring abbey of Tiltey, during the reigns of Henry the third and Edward the first, were more considerable than could have been expected if this building had been then begun: but in the reign of Edward the second, no more than one benefaction appears from Thaxted to Tiltey, and that in the earliest part of it; therefore this reign seems the most likely period for fixing the date. When, in the further progress of this inquiry, we find in whose hands the patronage of Clare was then vested, we shall see another powerful evidence for the truth of this conclusion. The different parts of the church were built at different times, as appears from the variation of the style. The south aisle, and the south end of the cross aisle, are unquestionably its oldest parts. The south aisle, which has no pilasters for its ornament within, and had originally no buttresses for its support without, and where the windows are most simple and least expensive, were, perhaps, erected by the inhabitants without any foreign aid. In the adjacent end of the cross aisle, there is a visible difference in the style of architecture, from which we may infer that it was erected by other means than what the parish afforded. The female portraits in the twelve smaller lights of the great window at the south end of this aisle, four of which are known to be St. Mary, St. Affra, St. Katharine, and St. Petronilla, proclaim the patronage of some female architect, and we may fairly presume, from a coincidence of other circumstances, that this was no other than Elizabeth of Clare, daughter of Gilbert, earl of Gloucester and Hereford. This lady was patroness of the monastery, which was removed to Stoke, in 1124, and succeeded to her share of the paternal property in 1313, the seventh year of the reign of Edward the second. The arms of De Burgh, earl of Ulster, and son of the lady Elizabeth of Clare, which appear in four of the windows, at the entrance into the nave, point him out as the architect of this part of the building. Though several of the De Burgh family had connexion with that of Clare, none of them were chiefs of their house, except William de Burgh, and his daughter. The arms before us being without abatement must, therefore, have belonged to one of these; but the daughter being so great an heiress, and a ward to king Edward the third, contracted from her earliest infancy to his son Lionel, the king undoubtedly caused the marriage to be completed before she was of sufficient age to become the patroness of this work, and consequently the arms

BOOK II. belonged to her father. William de Burgh dying in or about the year 1340, the nave must have been built by him sometime previous to that period.

The next part of the building, in order of time, is the south porch. That this was erected after the adjacent aisle, is evident from inspection; that it was built after the nave is highly probable, from the style and ornaments, especially the coronet over the principal entrance of the porch. There is some reason to suppose that it was built by Lionel, duke of Clarence, son-in-law and successor to the earl of Ulster, who came into possession of the Ulster estate in 1360, and died in 1368. As this agrees well with the order of events, it is certainly the most probable supposition. The effigy and arms of Edmund, earl of March, son-in-law and successor of Lionel, duke of Clarence, in the principal window of the north side of the church, evidently shew that he was the architect of the north aisle, and the north end of the cross aisle. The superior elegance and taste displayed in this part of the church may well be applied to him, as he was equally distinguished for his skill in architecture, and for his piety and munificence.* As the effigy in armour, bearing on its shield the arms of March, is unaccompanied with that of his countess, by means of whom he became connected with Clare, we may infer that this part of the church was erected after her death in 1377; her husband died in 1381. The short life of this nobleman seems to have prevented him from putting the finishing hand to the windows of the north aisle; for the paintings there are in a very different style from the others. A sun, which fills the principal rose in one of these windows, seems to allude to the victory of king Edward the fourth at Mortimer's Cross, and, if so, must have been added in the reign of that monarch. It is very probable that Roger, son of the last-mentioned earl of March, was prevented from extending his charity to the church of Thaxted, by the pressing exigencies of the monastery of Stoke, occasioned by a fire and the loss of a considerable part of their revenues, which was appropriated to Westminster abbey. On account of the wars with France, this being an alien monastery, the revenues of it had been seized long before the charters of denization. Under these circumstances, we have great reason to suppose that the father was a principal benefactor to this church, rather than the son. If we descend to Edmund, son of Roger, the former earl of March, and last heir male of the house of Mortimer, as he was not of age till 1412, this will occasion an improbable delay in the progress of the building. There are, however, some cognizances in this part of the church, in the smaller lights of an adja-

* In the east window of the cross end there were several golden falcons, accompanied with white roses, alluding, perhaps, to some benefaction of the house of York. The motto was, "Min grace:" formerly, the arms of Stafford and Vere were carved upon pannels, and supposed to be those of Henry Stafford, duke of Buckingham, and John de Vere, earl of Oxford, to whom king Edward the fourth was guardian. The beautiful ornamented niches, formerly on the east side of the south end of the transept, were destroyed by order of Mr. Heckford; they were probably the same as are on the east side of its north end.

cent window to that containing the effigy of the earl of March, which require explanation. As the windows and paintings are exactly similar, there can be no doubt but the cognizances in the one had an allusion to the person represented in the other. The chief cognizance to be explained, and which would illustrate the subject, is a dragon writhing round a ragged staff, both argent. The arms of March and Ulster, still remaining in the groined arches of the tower at the west end of the church, point out to us the munificent hand of a Mortimer in this beautiful building.* But it is difficult at this distance of time to discover which of that great family erected this tower as a monument of his taste, his munificence, and his piety. If, as has been supposed, the north end of the north aisle was built before the tower and spire; if Edmund, earl of March, was prevented by death from finishing the windows in the north aisle; if, lastly, his son Roger, earl of March, for the reason assigned, could not be concerned in the building, then it follows that Edmund, the last earl of March, must have this honour ascribed to him.

In the chancel the arms and cognizances of Edward the fourth, in every part of it, particularly in the windows of the north aisle, clearly manifest that he was the founder of this part of the church, or at least that it was built in his reign; there are also the remains of two other shields, which, in their perfect state, contained the arms of York, March, Ulster, and Geneville; also male and female figures in scarlet robes, both in the attitude of devotion. The family of Geneville, which had only for two generations been raised above the rank of commoners, failing in heirs male, the heiress of their house was married to Roger Mortimer, afterwards the first earl of March; but it does not appear that any of his descendants bore the arms of Geneville, excepting in this instance, which could not have been adopted to dignify the house, but only to denote descent. The reason of this was evidently to justify his own marriage with Elizabeth Widville, by removing the objections against her family, being only ennobled with a single barony, when the same was to be found in his own descent. The centre of the cross aisle, between the chancel and the nave, as it must depend on the eastern side for support on the chancel, and could not well have been built without it, we naturally conclude was built at the same time, and most probably by Edward the fourth, or, as it may otherwise be supposed, by the inhabitants, who had now been engaged in the building for more than a century and a half. The whole fabric, except the north porch, may then be considered as finished under Edward the fourth; and if the observation* respecting his arms be just, about the year of his marriage, A.D. 1465.

It has been generally supposed that John of Gaunt was the founder of this church; but this supposition appears to have arisen in a mistake of the arms of Lancaster, in a

* There are escallop-shells, and pelicans between the arms of March and Ulster, on the roof of the tower.

BOOK II.

window of the south aisle, where we find the royal arms; in a second instance, with the addition of a label of three parts ermine, and in both with wreaths of white roses. Now, it is very certain that no prince of the house of Lancaster bore the white rose in his arms before Henry the seventh, and as these are connected with the guloche, which was an ornament of architecture introduced in the reign of Henry the eighth, these arms must be referred to him; for the same reason, the portcullis, pomegranates, and emblems of the martyrdom of St. Katharine, are all to be referred to the same reign.

From all these appearances, and from the property which king Henry possessed in Thaxted, as a descendant of the house of March, and which was part of the queen's dower, we may infer that the south aisle was in some measure indebted to them, as well as some other parts of the church, for improvements or repairs; indeed, it is most probable, from these circumstances, taken collectively, that Henry the eighth, rather than Edward the fourth, was concerned in building and finishing the chancel; especially as the wide-expanded windows in the side aisles were peculiar to the time of the former, and the more pointed style to the time of the latter.*

Nothing has so much improved the appearance of the interior of this church as an elegant window of stained glass at the east end, given by the present incumbent, the rev. Thomas Gee, to supply the place of the old one, which was much broken and defaced. The workmanship and colours supplied by Mr. Egginton, who executed the windows in Arundel castle, are of superior excellence: it consists of the following arms and cognizances, copied from the broken windows and carved roof: king Edward the fourth; Lionel, duke of Clarence; Mortimer, earl of March; De Burgh, earl of Ulster; earl of Clare; Tilley abbey; viscount Maynard: the Katharine wheel and pomegranate, the cognizance of Katharine of Arragon; portcullis, of Tudor; of Henry the seventh, red and white roses; fleurs de lis, crosses, and celestial crown, with a variegated border, and other embellishments.

The ceiling of the whole church exhibits abundance of carved work; with representations of martyrdoms, legends of saints, grotesque physiognomies, and animals. The pulpit and the font are fine specimens of ancient workmanship.

Twenty obits were founded in this church; and donations for Jesus' mass, and various similar religious uses, the chief endowments of which have been appropriated to charitable purposes. There were also numerous altars and chapels: the high altar, the altars of St. Margaret, St. Thomas of Canterbury, St. Lawrence; with Our Lady's

* The roses in the windows are all white, as are those likewise painted on one of the beams; the carved work on the desks (formerly in the chancel) is filled with the heads and paws of lions; with dragons, pelicans, falcons, and swans, intermixed with roses; but their chief ornaments were a range of figures placed near their base, representing griffins, with the lion of March and the falcon of York united. The great window of the north end was destroyed by a storm, Dec. 2, 1768, and the opposite window was so much damaged as to require being taken down.

light, and the lights of St. James, St. Katharine, and St. George the martyr.* The chapels were, the chapel of the Holy Trinity, at the north end of the transept; the chapel of St. Anne, at the opposite end; the chapel of Our Lady, at the east end of the south aisle in the chancel; and the chapel of St. John, or St. Lawrence, in the north aisle. In Our Lady's chapel, on the roof, are several Gothic letters; "M," surrounded with glories, and the letters "J. H. S." alternately. A glory round the chalice represents the real presence at the sacrament.

* The following are among the inscriptions in this church:—"To the memory of Thomas Swallow, bachelor of physic, of the university of Cambridge; he married Anne, daughter of the rev. Robert Barnard, vicar of this church. He died of the small-pox in 1712, aged 26; leaving two children." Inscriptions.

"Sacred to the memory of Daniel More, esq. son of John More, of Thaxted. He lived fifty-nine years a life of integrity; thirty of these years he was employed in offices under government, to which he proved himself well qualified; by Katharine his wife, he had Thomas, Daniel, Charles, Edward, Abraham, Humphrey, Elizabeth, and Margaret. He was, whilst he lived, charitable to the poor of this town, (the place of his birth and his burial,) to whom he left a donation of forty pounds. At length, to the great grief of his friends, he fell a victim to death, on the 21st of July, in the year of his salvation 1681. Thomas More, his eldest son, and heir of the most affectionate father, caused this monument to be erected."

"Here lie the remains of Bridget and Joan Smith, daughters of Thomas Smith, esq. and Joan his wife; they both died in the year 1638."

"Under this marble lies the mortal part of the Rev. Robert Barnard, A.M. late vicar of this church, who, with the greatest diligence, an astonishing prudence, and a very happy success for about fifty years, instructed, established, and built-up numerous inhabitants of this town in Christian faith and practice. He was constant in his attention to the sick; exercised a remarkable liberality to the poor and helpless; advised and assisted all who were acquainted with him; and gave an example of an unblameable life of sincere and unaffected piety. At length, full of years, and ripe for Heaven, he died June 26, 1720, aged 79. Anne, his wife, died July 9, 1681, aged 30."

On the north door of the church: "Orate pro animabus Henrici Boyton et Johis."—"Pray for the souls of Henry and John Boyton."

In the north aisle: "***** ys the myrakell of our ***** shewydc by Anes Wentworth *****" One-fourth part of the manor of Thaxted belonged to the family of Wentworth, from 18th Ed. IV.

"In the vault beneath are deposited the remains of William Heckford, gent. who died Dec. 5, 1749, aged 59: and of Elizabeth (daughter of T. Rayner, gent.), his wife, who died August 16, 1757, aged 66: with Anne, Thomas, Mary, and William, four of their children."

"John Rayner, gent. died August 27, 1679, aged 51. Thomas Rayner, of Trinity College, was buried Dec. 20, 1674."

"Nathaniel Westley, and Sarah his wife, died April 27, 1711."

"Richard Turner, died Sept. 22, 1701: and Richard, son of Richard Turner, and Hannah his wife, died Aug. 10, 1706."

On the south side of the tower: "Near this place lieth the body of Peter Platt, stone-mason; of whose care and fidelity as a servant, his master, Edward Thompson, after eighteen years' experience, places this stone as a memorial. Of his qualification as a mason, this south side of the tower, repaired under his direction in the year before his death, will remain a lasting monument. He died Aug. 15, 1759, aged 54.

"Where Peter lies, 'tis fit this tower should show,
But for his skill, itself had lain as low."

Charities.—The charitable benefactions belonging to this parish are very extensive. The estate named Yerdleys, in the time of Henry the sixth, belonged to Thomas Yerdele, and was, on his death, vested in Charities

BOOK II.

During the summer of 1814, the spire of this church was considerably injured by lightning; and scaffolding was erected, at the expense of nearly four hundred pounds, for taking down the damaged part; of which forty-six feet had been removed, when, on the 16th of December following, a violent storm arose, which threw down the scaffolding, and thirty feet of what remained of the spire. The body of the church was also very considerably injured, but was completely repaired, and the tower rebuilt in 1822, by Mr. Cheshire, of Over-Whitaker, near Coleshill, in Warwickshire.

Prior's
Hall.

Previous to the Conquest, the rectory of Thaxted, called Prior's Hall, belonged to the collegiate church of St. John the Baptist, of Clare, in Suffolk; in 1124, removed by Richard, son of Gilbert de Clare, to Stoke, near that town. This appropriation, first made by Richard, bishop of London, was confirmed, and the vicarage endowed by Roger Niger, his successor. The convent was afterwards converted into a college, with a dean and chapter, who retained both the rectory and vicarage till the dissolution of their house, after which the vicarage and manor of Prior's Hall were granted by Edward the sixth, to his preceptor, sir John Cheeke, who was deprived of this possession on the accession of queen Mary. In 1560, they became the property of William lord Howard, of Effingham, and of his son, Charles lord Howard, in 1580; from whom they were the same year conveyed to Robert Petre, esq., and in 1605, John lord Petre sold them to sir Henry Maynard, ancestor of the present proprietor.

A dispute arising between William lord Maynard, impropiator of Thaxted and patron, and Norman Leader, vicar, respecting the tithe of hops, it was referred to Dr. Laud, the bishop of London, whose decision was agreed to by both parties; and which ordered that the vicar should receive yearly, besides his usual oblations and dues, twenty pounds of well-dried hops, that he should be discharged from his usual payment of five marks for the reparation of the chancel, and that he should have from the rector a yearly pension of thirty pounds.

feoffee, in trust for his four sons, and their issue, or, in default of such issue, to be sold for the benefit of the church and poor, and for the repairs of the adjacent highways. The sons all dying childless, the estate was sold in 1489, and the produce made to form a fund, for the tenths and fifteenths that might be levied on the parish by the government, or, when not wanted for this purpose, the revenues were to be applied to other charitable uses. The mode of taxation by tenths and fifteenths having been long discontinued, the produce of the fund is now applied to the support of a school, repairing the church, improving the highways, &c.—William lord Maynard, by will, in 1698, bequeathed four thousand pounds for purchasing the rectory of Thaxted, or some other of equal value, to be vested in trustees, for the purpose of increasing the salary of the minister, repairing and beautifying the church, marrying poor virgins, binding out apprentices, relieving poor people overburthened with children, and for other purposes. The rectory of Thaxted being entailed in such a manner that it could not be obtained, that of Potten, in Bedfordshire, and some estates in Suffolk, were purchased with the abovementioned princely donation, the proceeds of which are applied according to the directions of the donor.—Among the numerous other charities, are endowments for almshouses in different parts of the town: one of the buildings appropriated to this use is an ancient chantry-house: the Guildhall is now the parish workhouse, and the Mote-hall is used for a school.

Samuel Purchas, B.D., a learned divine, was born at Thaxted, in the year 1577, and died in 1628. He received his education at Cambridge; and was a man of universal learning. With great labour and industry, he enlarged and perfected Hackluyt's collection of Voyages and Travels; a work highly esteemed, and valuable for the various instruction and amusement contained in it. He also wrote Microcosmos, or the History of Man, and other works; and died in poverty and distress, from the charges of publishing.

CHAP.
IX.Samuel
Purchas.

This parish, in 1821, contained two thousand and forty-five, and, in 1831, two thousand two hundred and ninety-three inhabitants.*

LINDSEL.

This small and pleasant parish, from Thaxted extends south-eastward to Dunmow, and to Hinckford hundred. In records the name is written Lyndesele, Lindezel; in Domesday, Lindeseles. Distant from Great Dunmow three, and from London forty miles.

Lindsel.

The lands of this parish, previous to the Conquest, belonged to Ulmar, a freeman, and at the survey had been given to Eudo Dapifer. There are three manors.

Lindsel Hall is near the church; this manor, in 1210, was holden under Eudo, by the service of one knight's fee, by Ralph Pirot, whose descendants were the recorded possessors of this estate till the reign of Edward the first, when it belonged successively to Ralph Pirot in 1251, sir Ralph his son, and to John and Simon Pirot, of the same family. Afterwards it became the property of the Clare family, from whom it was conveyed, by marriage, to Bartholomew lord Badlesmere, and by his youngest daughter Margaret, to her husband, John de Tibetot, on whose decease, in 1367, his son, Robert de Tibetot, or Tiptoft, was his successor, who dying in 1372, left three daughters, the youngest of whom, married to Philip le Despenser, brought him this estate; and he, on his decease in 1423, left it to his only daughter Margaret, married to sir Roger Wentworth, whose successors were sir Philip, sir Henry, and sir Richard; which last died in 1528, in possession of this estate; his son, sir Thomas Wentworth, was created baron Wentworth of Nettlested in 1529, and is supposed to have sold this estate to William Fitch, esq. of Brazen-head, a capital mansion in this parish, so named from a wolf's head of brass over the gateway. Richard, the second son, succeeded his father here; whose son Thomas, his successor, had by his wife Margaret Meade, Thomas Fitch, of Margaretting, and Robert, of Brazenhead, whose son Thomas was living in 1614. This manor afterwards became the property of sir Francis North, lord Guilford, and now belongs to the earl of Guilford.

Lindsel
Hall.

Latcheley Hall is on an eminence, near the road to Stebbing, three quarters of a mile from Lindsel church: it was holden of the honour of Clare by the family of

Latcheley.

* We cannot pass this opportunity of acknowledging the great and kind assistance which we have received, in the history of his own parish, from the rev. Thomas Jec, vicar of Thaxted.

BOOK II. Badlesmere, succeeded by William Bohun, afterwards earl of Northampton, from whom it descended, with Thaxted, to Richard, duke of York; and passing to the crown, was granted, by Henry the eighth, to Richard Jenour, esq. from whom it descended, with Bigods in Great Dunmow, to his heirs and successors.

Prior's
Hall.

Prior's Hall is a short distance from the church, and the considerable manorial estate to which it belongs was in possession of Harolf, in the time of Edward the confessor; and at the survey had been given to the monastery of St. Valery, in Picardy. Being one of the priories alien, it passed to the crown in the time of the wars with France, and was afterwards given to New College, Oxford.

Church.

The church is of one pace with the chancel, and the steeple stands on the south side of the west end. This church was appropriated to the abbey of Walden, and a vicarage endowed, to which, in 1433, the convent added six marks per annum.*

In 1621, there were in this parish three hundred and fifty-three, and, in 1631, three hundred and eighty-one inhabitants.

CHICKNEY.

Chickney.

This parish extends from Lindsell and Thaxted south-westward to Henham, on the border of Uttlesford hundred. The name is written Chikeneye, Chigney, and in Domesday Cichenai: sometimes it is called Great Chickney.

A thane named Siward, had the lands of this parish in the time of Edward the confessor, and at the survey it was one of the thirty-five lordships belonging to Ralph Peverel, in this county; Garin was his under-tenant. Ralph Peverel married Ingelric, a concubine of the Conqueror, by whom, previous to her marriage, she became the mother of William Peverel, of Nottingham, one of whose sons was the ancestor of the family who were seated here. In 1210 and 1211, William Peverel held five knights' fees; Hugh Peverel had free-warren here in 1247, and, at the time of his decease in 1298, held the manor of Chickney of the king, as of his honour of Peverel, by the service of one knight's fee. John, his son and heir, held jointly with Joanna his wife, the manor of Chickney; he died in 1314, leaving Hugh his son and heir. Here a chasm of one hundred years occurs in the records, and during this interval the family of Bouchier had come to the possession of the estate. In 1456, it belonged to Henry viscount Bouchier; to Henry, earl of Essex, in 1472, and to his successor of the same name, who died in 1540, when, on failure of heirs male, it became the inheritance of his only daughter Anne, who, by marriage, conveyed it to William Parr, earl of Essex and marquis of Northampton, who presented to the living in 1542; but being implicated with the party who supported the cause of lady Jane Grey, he was attainted, and his estates forfeited. He was restored in blood by queen Mary,

* Inscription: Beneath the effigies of a man and woman, with six girls, and five boys, is a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation. "Here lie Thomas Fitch and Agnes his wife, which Thomas died 21 April, 1514. May God be merciful to their souls."

but not to the whole of his estates and honours till 1558. Afterwards this estate became the property of Henry Collyn, esq. succeeded by colonel Evan Lloyd, of whom it was purchased by Joseph Cranmer, esq. of Quendon Hall.

CHAP.
IX.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is on ground considerably elevated, commanding an extensive view of the surrounding country. A tower of stone, with a spire shingled, contains two bells.*

Church.

In 1821, this parish contained sixty-six, and, in 1831, seventy-two inhabitants.

BROXTED, OR CHAWRETH.

The parish of Broxted extends from Chickney southward, and westward joins to Henham. The lands are fruitful and well-cultivated, presenting from the high grounds pleasant and extensive prospects. A brook rises here which falls into the Chelmer at Tilty, from which the name of the place has been supposed to have been derived; this name in records is written Broxted, Brokesed, Brokesefede, Brokeshend, Brokesheved, Broxhed, in Domesday Brocheshevot; and it has formerly been divided into Great and Little. It is also traditionally reported to have been originally a hamlet to what was named Chawreth; yet this last name does not appear in Domesday. It is distant from Dunmow four, and from London thirty-seven miles.

Broxted,
or Chaw-
reth.

A part of this parish is stated to have been in possession of two sochmen in the time of the Confessor, which at the survey belonged to Eudo Dapifer, whose under-tenant here was named Richard. This part, both before and after the Conquest, belonged to the monastery of St. Ethelbert, at Ely. There are three manors.

Broxted Hall is a short distance south-westward from the church, and the manor is supposed to be what was holden as a knight's fee in 1210, with part of two fees and a half in Chaure and Brokesheved, which the earl of Clare, and the heirs of Walter de Acre, held of Richard de Clare, earl of Gloucester and Hertford, who died in 1262. After the decease of Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester, in 1314, this estate was holden of Elizabeth de Burgh, lady of Clare, by John de Lovaine, who died in 1347: his family retained possession till 1359, when it was conveyed, by Alianor his daughter, to her husband, sir William Bouchier, in which family it remained till Anne, the only daughter of Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, conveyed it, by marriage, to William Parr, marquis of Northampton. In 1558, it was granted, by Mary and Philip, to sir Thomas White; and by Queen Elizabeth, in 1590, to Henry Maynard, esq. ancestor of the lords Maynard, of Easton Lodge.

Broxted
Hall.

Chawreth Hall, vulgarly named Cherry Hall, at the time of the survey belonged to the monastery of St. Ethelbert, at Ely. In 1294, William de Wanton held it in right of his wife Maud, of John de Lovetott, sen. by the service of two knights' fees; and it passed to his descendants, William in 1347, sir William in 1397, and to his

Chawreth

* There is an almshouse on Chickney Green for two dwellers.

BOOK II. co-heiresses, Joan and Anne. In 1540, it had become the property of sir Richard Gresham, alderman of London, who sold it in that year to Thomas Crawley, esq. of Wendon Loughts, who died in 1559, holding this manor of John Newdigate, esq. as of his manor of Harefield, in Middlesex. It was afterwards in the families of Bendish, Adams of Elsenham, and by purchase passed to sir Strange Jocelyn, bart. of Sawbridgeworth, in Hertfordshire, who left it by will to his younger son, sir Conyers Jocelyn, M.D. bart. who sold it to Charles lord Maynard.

Church. The church is on the side of a hill; it is dedicated to St. Mary; the chancel unusually high, with a south aisle; a low wooden belfry contains four bells.

Rectory. The rectory is a manor, and the manor-house is near the church. In 1151 it was given, by Alured de Bendeville and his wife Sibil, with Roger Pigot's land, and all appertenances, to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, for the souls of the noble house of Clare, and for their own souls: Gilbert, earl of Clare, is on this occasion called "their lord." This gift was confirmed by Richard de Clare, earl of Hereford, king John, and Hubert, archbishop of Canterbury. After the suppression, in 1541, the rectory, with the advowson of the vicarage, were granted to George Harper, and he, in 1543, conveyed them to sir Thomas Audley.

This parish, in 1821, contained five hundred and ninety-seven, and, in 1831, six hundred and ninety-four inhabitants.

BARNSTON, OR BERNSTON.

Barnston, or Bernston. This parish, pleasantly and conveniently situated on the river Chelmer, southward from Dunmow, is thinly inhabited, and the labouring part of the community chiefly dependant on agricultural occupations. It is distant from Ongar fifteen, and from London thirty-six miles.

Barnston Hall. Hugh de Berners held this manor, the only one in the parish, under Geoffrey de Magnaville, at the time of the survey; he also had Roding Berners, in this hundred, and both of these estates have retained his name, this being originally Berners-town, corruptly pronounced Bernston, and Barnston. The Berners family continued tenants of this estate many generations after the Conquest. Sir Ralph died possessed of it in 1297; sir John in 1375; and his son sir James, surnamed of West Horseley, in Surrey, was beheaded in 1388, for the alleged treason of giving evil advice to king Richard the second; his estates being confiscated, this manor was sold to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, who, according to the Monasticon, settled it on his college of Pleshy; and on the dissolution of religious houses, in 1546, it was granted to sir John Gate, on whose attaindure for being of the party who advocated the cause of lady Jane Grey, this and his other estates fell to the crown, and were granted, by queen Mary, to Robert, brother to Richard lord Rich, to whom part of this estate afterwards came by co-heirship; and it remained in this family till Daniel, earl of

Nottingham, who married lady Essex, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of the last earl of Warwick, sold Bernston to sir Felix Wylde, bart. of Town-Marden, in Kent, whose sister was married to John Cockman, M.D. and their daughter, by marriage, conveyed this estate and Priory Place, in Little Dunmow, to Nicholas Toke, esq. whose descendant is the present possessor.

Albanes is a capital mansion on the road to High Roding, about a mile from the church westward; it was for many generations the residence of the Collard family; William Collard died here in 1668, aged 88, and on the death of Ady Collard, esq.* unmarried in the 74th year of his age, he left two sisters, Barbara, wife of Nicholas Stiles, and Dorothy, who died single in 1743, in the 82nd year of her age: on which the estate became the property of sir Robert Fagg, bart. whose lady was daughter of William Ward, L.L.D. commissary of York, whose grandmother was a daughter of Dr. Ady.

Albanes.

The church, which is on the top of the hill, and rather an old-looking building, had the original entrances by semi-circular arches; of which, that on the south side had its mouldings distinct, which are plain: both are now blocked up, and the entrance is at the end, by a modern square wooden door.†

Church.

In 1821, this parish contained two hundred and eighteen, and, in 1831, two hundred and fifteen inhabitants.

* Arms of Collard: Party per fesse, argent and or, two moors' heads coupéd, sable, lips gules, escarsoned, or and sable.

† Inscriptions: Memoria sacrum. "Hic situs est Robertus Scottus, theol. professor, decanus Roffensis, magister Aulæ Clarensis, in academia Cantabr: sub-decanus Wellensis, vir prisca fide, antiquis moribus, pietate in deum, probitate in homines, instructissimus, e Collegio, S: et ind; Trinit. Cant. ubi socius summo cum bonorum amore, et pari honore vixit, ad aulam regiam evocatus, sub-eleemosynarius regius factus, olim Elizabethæ, nup̄r serenissimo Jacobo; episcopis, proceribus, famulisq: certatim charus, etiam dissidentium centrum et amor communis, tanta charitate ut præfectus regis eleemosynis suas exercebat, et etiam cum cederet loco regis eleemosynis præfectus videretur, Aulæ Clarensis, factus magister iisdem moribus rediit Cantabr: quibus olim egressus est, tam aulicarum artium ignarus, quam peritus academicarum, quemcumq: locum allegit beavit, templum Roffense eo decano Clarensæ sacellum et bibliotheca eo præfecto redornata. Tot loca tot trophæa. Procancellariatum academicum mirabili justitia exegit; deniq. vir etiam cum viveret cœlestis tam supra adulationem meam (lector) quam tuam fidem. Obiit 28 Dec. 1820, Ætat. 51."

Inscriptions.

In English: Sacred to memory.—"Here lies Robert Scott, professor of divinity, dean of Rochester, master of Clare Hall, in the university of Cambridge, sub-dean of Wells, a man faithful and good in a greater degree than the generality of the people of this age; most remarkable for piety towards God, and integrity towards man. He was of Trinity College, in Cambridge, where he lived as a fellow, highly esteemed and honoured by good men. Being called to court, he was made sub-almoner, first to queen Elizabeth, then to king James. To bishops, nobles, servants, he was equally dear; even those who disagreed among themselves, agreed in their love of him. He was so charitable, that when dispenser of the royal alms, he gave his own; and even when he quitted this office, he seemed yet a prince's almoner. Being appointed master of Clare Hall, he returned to Cambridge with the same habits he had when he left it, as much ignorant of court-arts as acquainted with academic virtues. He was a blessing to every place

BOOK II.

PLESHY.

Pleshy.

This parish, from the extremity of the hundred eastward, extends to Leaden Roding, and to High Estre on the north. The village consists of one long street. Distant from Dunmow seven, and from London thirty-five miles.

It was anciently a place of importance, being the seat of the high constables of England till some time after the year 1400. The name has been supposed to come from the French word *Plaisir*, applicable on account of its situation, on elevated ground, with agreeable prospects, especially toward the south, in which direction it is watered by a small stream, and by a brook on the north. It is variously named in records, Pleshynchou, Plesinchou, Plessy, Pleshe, Plashe, Pleysie, Placy, Placeis, Plaisiers, Pleshites, Plecy, Plaisy, alias Belhous, alias Bowles.

Little is known of the history of Pleshy before the period of the Norman conquest. If it was, as some think, included in High Estre, it was, though by usurpation, the seat of the high constable in the Conqueror's time; for Alfhære, or Esgar, entitled *stallere*, which is interpreted by the Latin *dux*, and in another passage *constabularius*, took that place from the abbey of Ely in the Conqueror's reign, and they could not regain it without granting him a life estate therein. He was soon after imprisoned by order of the king, and ended his life in confinement. But the monks never recovered their property, it remaining in the crown. Pleshy was granted to Eustace, earl of Bologne, who held it at the survey, and his under-tenant was one Bernard. When Maud, grand-daughter of earl Eustace, was married to king Stephen, her father's great estates became vested in the crown, and Pleshy was by Stephen conferred on Geoffrey de Mandeville, who was created earl of Essex. Having joined the party of the empress Maud, he was seized and imprisoned; and the tower of London, with the castles of Walden and Pleshy, both of his own building, were made the price of his release. He was shortly afterwards slain at the siege of Burwell castle by a missile from the walls. Henry II. restored all his estates to his son Geoffrey, and gave him his cousin to wife; but soon after took her away, with his two manors of Walden and Waltham. Geoffrey died at Chester in 1167, on an expedition against the Welsh, and was succeeded by his brother William, who obtained leave of the king to fortify his castle here, wherein he solemnized his marriage with Hawise, daughter

Mandeville.

he filled; to the church of Rochester, as dean; to Clare Hall chapel and library, the latter of which was re-beautified under his mastership. The more offices he held, the more trophies there were of his rectitude, and was in short, whilst he lived, a heavenly-minded man, as much beyond my flattery (reader) as thy belief. He died on the 23d of Dec. 1620, in the 51st year of his age."

There are also epitaphs on Richard Scott, gent. who gave one hundred and sixty pounds for the poor; Robert Scott, who died in 1620; Ady Collard, esq. son of William and Dorothy Collard, who died July 31, 1747, aged 74; and several others of the same family.

and heir of William le Gros, earl of Albemarle, in 1180, by whom he had the earldom of Albemarle. "From this time," Gough observes, "we must probably date the Norman fortification of this place." Geoffrey was sent on several embassies by Henry II. and Richard I., and is represented by the compiler of the Chronicle of Walden abbey, which was founded by his ancestors, as a person of lively parts, consummate prudence, great personal bravery, and resembling his brother in person, stature, and address.* He died without issue in 1198, and his estate devolved to his second cousin, Beatrix de Say, grand-daughter of his aunt Beatrix. She married Geoffrey Fitz-Piers, of Ludgarshal castle, in Wiltshire, chief justice of England, and, in her right, earl of Essex: their sons, Geoffrey and William, assuming the surname of Maudeville, also enjoyed the same dignity and title. They had a daughter named Maud, married to Henry de Bohun, earl of Hereford, and lord high constable of England. Geoffrey, the father, died in 1213, his son Geoffrey in 1216, and William in 1227, both without offspring; the last of them entailing his estates, with the earldom, on Maud, his sister; whose husband, created earl of Hereford by king John in 1199, and constable of England, dying in 1220,† was succeeded by his son Humphrey, known by the popular appellation of the "Good earl of Hereford;" likewise, in right of his mother, earl of Essex. He married, first, Maud, daughter of Ralph de Issodun, by whom he had his son Humphrey, who died before him: marrying, secondly, Maud de Avenesbury, he had John and Milo. Dying in 1275, Humphrey, eldest son of his son of that name, succeeded as earl of Hereford and Essex; and was also, in his mother's right, baron of Brecknock: he obtained leave of Edward the first, in 1320, to inclose one hundred and fifty acres, contiguous to his park of Waltham and High Estre; which has been known as Pleshy Great Park. He died at Pleshy in 1298, leaving by Maud, sister of William lord Fines, Humphrey, his only son, slain at Boroughbridge, in 1322: having married Elizabeth, daughter of king Edward the first, widow of John earl of Holland, by whom he had six sons and two daughters; Margaret, married to Hugh Courtney, earl of Devonshire, and Eleanor, to James Butler, earl of Ormond. John, the eldest son, and heir to his father's estates and honours, was twice married; but dying childless, in 1335, was succeeded by his brother Humphrey, who also died without issue in 1361. William, earl of Northampton, his next brother, died before him, in 1359, but Humphrey, his son, succeeded his uncle, as earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton; baron of Brecknock, and high constable of England. He married Joan, daughter of Richard Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel and Surrey, and on his decease, in 1372, left Eleanor and Mary, co-heiresses to an immense estate: his widow died in 1416. Eleanor was married to Thomas of Woodstock,

* *Placer ingenio, consilio providus, in armis nomine magnus; ipsum autem eadem complexio, simili facundia, par corporis proceritas, fratri satis assimilavit.*—*Monast. Angl.* i. 451.

† Maud, his widow, was married to Roger de Dantsey, but divorced from him in 1227.

BOOK II. sixth son of king Edward the third, and, in her right, succeeding to the family honours, was also, in 1377, created earl of Buckingham, and, in 1385, duke of Gloucester. With his lady he had Pleshy, High Estre, Waltham, and other estates.

Mary, the younger sister, was married to Henry earl of Derby, afterwards king Henry the fourth.

The duke of Gloucester was uncle to king Richard the second, and highly distinguished for valour, probity, and honour; but having great influence in public affairs, and being opposed to the measures pursued by his nephew's favourite advisers, his destruction was determined upon, for which purpose he was treacherously decoyed from his castle of Pleshy, and forcibly conveyed to Paris, where he was murdered, in 1397.

Death of
the duke
of Glou-
cester.

This transaction is related as follows, by Froissart:—"On a day the kynge in maner as goyng a huntynge rode from Haveryng of Bour a xx myle from London in Essex, and within xx myle of Plasshey, where the duke of Gloucester helde his house. After dyner, the kynge departed from Haveryng with a small company, and came to Plasshey about v a clocke; the weder was fayre and hote. So the kynge came sodainly thyder about the tyme that the duke of Gloucester had supped. For he was but a small eater, nor eat never long at dyner nor at supper. When he herde of the kynge's comynge, he went to meet hym in the myddel of the court, and so did the duchesse and her chyldren, and they welcomed the kynge, and the kynge eptered into the hall and so into a chambre. Than a borde was spredde for the kynge's supper. The kynge satt not longe, and sayd at his fyrst comynge, 'Faire uncle, cause fyve or sixe horses of yours to be sadyllled, for I wyll praye you to ryde with me to London, as tomorrowe, the Londoners wyll be before us. And there wyll be also myne uncles of Lancastre and Yorke, with dyvers other noblemen. For upon the Londoners requestes I wyll be ordred accordyng to your counsaile, and commaunde your stewarde to followe you with your trayne to London, where they shall fynde you.' The duke, who thought none yvell, lyghtly agreed to the kynge. And when the kynge had supped and rysen, every thyng was redy. The kynge then toke leave of the duchesse and of her chyldren, and lepte a horsebacke, and the duke with hym, accompanied all onely but with sevyn servauntes, thre squyers, and foure yeomen, and toke the waye of Bondelay, to take the playne waye and to eschewe Brendwode and London comen hyghewaye. So they rode a greet payce, and the kynge talked by the way with his uncle, and he with hym, and so aproched to Stratforde on the ryver of Thames. When the kynge came nere to the bushment that he had layde, than he rode from his uncle a great pace, and lefte hym somewhat behynde hym. Than sodainly the erle-marshall with his bande came galopyng after the duke, and overtoke hym, and seide, 'Sir, I arrest you in the kynge's name.' The duke was abashed with that worde, and sawe well he was betrayed, and began to call loude after the kynge. I can nat tell

weder the kynge herde hym or nat, but he turned nat; but rode forthe rather faster than he dyde before." *

The tenants of the duke did not long remain without an opportunity of showing their love to their lord and their hatred to his enemies. The duke of Exeter, who was concerned in the conspiracy against Henry IV., when he heard of the defeat of his partisans at Cirencester, in Gloucestershire, being then at London, immediately took horse, and, with sir John Schevele, fled to the coast of Essex, intending to escape by sea. Being, however, driven back in repeated attempts, he contrived to secrete himself for some time, but was at last discovered by the country people while sitting at supper in the house of a friend.† He was taken first to Chelmsford, and thence, for the sake of greater security, to Pleshy, the manor of the late duke of Gloucester, in whose death he was believed to have had too much concern. No sooner, therefore, did the tenants and villaines of the manor understand that he was in their power, than, resolving to be themselves the avengers of their lord, they seized upon him, and cut off his head.‡

* Bouchier's Froissart, fol. cclxxxvii.—The duke of Gloucester is made to give the following account of his apprehension in the Mirror of Magistrates:—

' For lying at Plashey my selfe to repose
By reason of sicknesse which helde mee full sore:
The king espying mee apart from those
With whom I confedered in band before,
Thought it not meete to tract the time more,
But glad to take mee at such a vantage,
Came to salute mee with friendly visage.

Who having a band bound to his bent,
By colour of kindnesse to visite his game,
Tooke time to accomplishe his cruell entent;
And in a small vessell downe by the streame,
Conveyd mee to Calais, out of the realme,
Where, without process or dome of my peeres,
Not nature, but murder, abridged my yeeres."

The parliamentary records contain the confession of John Halle, who was hanged for this murder. He was a valet of the duke of Norfolk, and, among other particulars, stated, "that Norfolk came to him at Callis, and called him out of his bed, telling him that the king and the duke of Aumerle had sent their valets, Serle and Franceys, for the purpose of murdering Gloucester, and that he must be present in the name of his master." Halle prayed that he might be suffered to go away, though with the loss of all his property; but Norfolk told him he must be present on foot of his life, and therewith struck him violently on the head. The confederate valets first went to a church, and were sworn to secrecy; they then repaired to Gloucester's lodging at his inn, who, seeing Serle, asked him how he did, saying, "Now I know I shall do well;" but Serle, taking Franceys with him, called the duke into another chamber, and they there told him it was the king's will that he should die. Gloucester answered, that if it was the king's will it must be so; they asked him to have a chaplain, to which he agreed, and confessed; they then compelled him to lie down on a bed; the two valets threw a feather-bed over him, three other persons held down its sides, whilst Serle and Franceys pressed on the mouth of the duke till he expired; there were three other persons in the chamber on their knees, weeping and praying for his soul, whilst Halle kept guard at the door. The duke of Norfolk came to them, and saw the body of murdered Gloucester.—*Placeta, Parl.* vol. iii.

† An old chronicle quoted by Leland (*Itin.* vi. 31) says he was apprehended in a mill at Pritewelle.—Fabyan (*ii.* 342) says, "And at Prytwell, in Essex, was taken sir John Holland, duke of Exeter," &c.

‡ The authorities for this account are Walsingham, Otterbourne, and the monk of Evesham.—We have an account given by Dugdale (*Baro.* ii. 80) of the king's sending his precept to the churchwardens of Pleshy, "to deliver his head," to the countess's messenger, "to be buried with his body." It would

BOOK II.

The duke of Gloucester being in the ensuing parliament declared a traitor, his lands and possessions were forfeited to the king; his widow, however, at the time of her decease, in 1399, enjoyed nearly the whole of the estates belonging to her ancestors, with the office of high constable. The remains of the duke, her husband, were first buried in his collegiate church here, but afterwards removed to Westminster abbey; where she was also buried. They had an only son, Humphrey, who died unmarried, and three daughters, Anne, Joan, and Isabel: the last of these was a nun; Joan was married to Gilbert lord Talbot, and died in 1400, and her only daughter died young; so that Anne, the eldest daughter, became sole heiress to the Bohun estates. She was married, first, to Thomas, and, secondly, to Edmund, his brother, successively earls of Stafford; and, thirdly, to William Bourchier, earl of Eu. But she did not enjoy this lordship; for, in 1421, a partition being made of the estates of Humphrey de Bohun, last of that name, earl of Essex, between king Henry the fifth, son of Mary, youngest daughter of Thomas of Woodstock, and Anne, countess of Stafford, this castle and manor, with the park, became the king's property,* and were united to the duchy of Lancaster.

In 1547, Edward the sixth granted the "manor of Plecy, and Pleoy parkes, alias le great park and le little parke de Plecy," to sir John Gate; on whose attainder, in 1553, this estate again passed to the crown. The great park, sometime afterwards becoming the property of Richard lord Rich, was incorporated with the demesnes of Waltham-bury; and the little park of Pleshy, with a messuage belonging to it in Great Waltham, was purchased by sir Robert Clarke, baron of the exchequer, who held it in fee-farm of the honour of Mandeville, at the time of his decease, in 1607. Robert, his son, was his successor; followed, in 1629, by his son of the same name, who built the large house called the Lodge, using, on this occasion, the materials of the ancient castle and the college. The successive heirs of this family retained possession of the lodge estate and tithes of the parish, till Robert Clarke, esq. of Rifehams, sold them, in 1720, to sir William J. J. knt. who on his decease, in 1750, left them to his nephew, Samuel Tufnell, esq. of Langleys, in Great Waltham, ancestor of the present possessor; to whom, likewise, belong the estates of Pleshy-bury and farm.†

Pleshy-
bury.

appear, however, that the duke of Exeter was actually buried at Pleshy; for Weever says, "Vpon one of the parts of a dismembred monument, carelesly cast here and there in the body of the church, I found these words: 'Here lyeth Iohn Holland, erle of Exceter, erle of Huntington, and chamberleyne of England, who dyed"

* Statut. 9th Hen. V.

† The following memorandum, relating to the manor of Pleshy, is found among the records in the Augmentation office:—"Mem. That there is a court-baron and court-leet belonging to the said manor usually holden upon Wednesday in Whitsun week. That the mayor of Pleshey for the time being, is to collect and gather all the quit rents, fines, and amercements of courts, without any consideration allowed him for his pains; that the tenants holding of the said manor do usually pay one year's quit-rent, upon descent or alienation, as a relief, unto the lord thereof."

The site of Pleshy appears to have been occupied by the Romans. A Roman fortification (Gough says) surrounds the village. It begins to the west of the church, which stands just without it, and falls into the fosse of the keep of the castle on the west side. The vallum, with a noble fosse, is very perfect in parts of the north, east, and west sides, and the four roads which led into the camp, may be easily traced. That which enters the west side, running by the church, may be followed by piecemeal almost to Chelmsford, to the west of the Waltham road. By its side have been found many human bones, a bit of iron,* a stone coffin, and a glass urn with bones in it, as also some tessellæ of pavements.† The circumference of the vallum is within a few yards of a Roman mile. "About twenty-five years ago several urns were found in a field about half a mile from the church; and, at Pleshy-bury farm, in a field called Stickling, had been discovered a vault, about three yards square, paved with bricks, about nine inches square, and containing in niches several earthen vessels with stoppers (which a countryman, my informant, said were *brass*), and filled with earth and bones. In a field about a quarter of a mile from the church, belonging to the Bury farm, in the road leading to High Estre, was found, about thirty years ago, a fine glass urn, with some burnt bones in it, which Samuel Tufnell, esq. shewed to the society of antiquaries. I could hear of nothing else found there. In the tower of the church are some Roman bricks; and Mr. Morant finds such at the two corners of the chancel of the adjoining church of High Estre."‡ The whole vallum, as measured by surveyors in 1773, was said to be nineteen chains, eighty links, or sixty rods, in circumference, and the keep thirteen chains, fifty links, or fifty-two rods.

Supposing the castle of Pleshy, with some writers, to have been a Norman structure, still there can scarcely be a doubt that the prodigious earth-works which yet remain are much more ancient; if not Danish, perhaps the work of the still older British occupiers of the soil. Leland has preserved a tradition which clearly points to this great antiquity of the earth-works. "One of the college of Plescy yn Etsax," he

Pleshy
castle.

* Gough is here supposed to mean, an iron bridle bit.

† "The road from Bromfield to Great Chicknal lies for nearly two miles very straight; and the name of a few houses that stand on each side of one part of it is, to this day, *Pick-street*, or, as in Chapman's map, *Wick-street*. Street has been always allowed to be a corruption of *stratum*, and *Pick* seems to retain the sound of *Vicus*: so that such a road may naturally be supposed to lead to some ancient station. This road ceases about a mile from Chelmsford, and turns off into that which leads to Margaret Roding. In the fields opposite to *Pick Street*, and in the line to which it points, is an evident artificial ford over the river, which now lies only in fields, and is disused. The street may be followed from this ford, though, in some places, turned a little round, to lead to a farm house to within a mile of Pleshy, where it is lost in enclosures, but pointed directly to the church, and its ridge may be seen from the keep extending some way into the enclosure."—Gough, p. 3.

‡ Gough's "History and Antiquities of Pleshy," p. 2. Gough's book was published in 1808.—"Old Lodge," Gough observes, "a small moated spot, about a mile north-east of Pleshy, is by some imagined Roman, but is most likely a lodge in one of the parks, if not a mansion-house."

BOOK II. says, "told me that he had heard of men of knowlege that the toun and place wher the castelle nou standith was of auncient tyme caullid *Tumblestoun*, and that the new name is writen thus, *Castel de Placeto*. It longgid to the Mandevilles: but whither they had it straitte after the conquest or no I cannot know for a surety. Ther was a great man caullid de Placetes that married the heire general of the erle of Warwick. Thomas erle of Bukingham, sunne to Edward the 3 was of this castelle: and built the college there."*

The earth-works consist of an area of about two acres, enclosed by high and strong embankments, with a deep moat on the outside of the embankments. On the east side is an immense mound, separated from the enclosed area, as well as from the surrounding grounds, by a very deep ditch. This mound has been called by topographers the keep, and on it appears to have been built the strongest part of the castle. The area has no embankment on the side immediately adjoining to the moat which surrounds the great mound. The walls of the castle appear to have been built on the embankments, and it is to this arrangement, probably, that Leland alludes, when he observes, "One tolde me that mucche of the walls of Plaschey castle in Estsex is made of erthe."† The walls have now disappeared, but the brick bridge of one lofty pointed arch, which formed the communication between the castle and its keep still remains, and, mantled with ivy and foliage, forms from the wooded moat below a most picturesque object. The arch, according to Gough, is eighteen feet high, and eighteen feet wide, and is, he says, "remarkable for the singular circumstance of contracting as it approaches the foundations." He observes, also, that "on this bridge was till very lately a brick gate mantled with ivy, the tottering condition of which rendered it dangerous to attempt to clear the brick work of the ivy, in order to see if any arms or inscriptions over the arch might be concealed under it. Foundations of brick run from the end of this bridge to the left round the keep, and on each side of the way to it are foundations of large rooms and angles of stone buildings. The site of the castle has been a warren, and four ragged stumps occupy the keep, in planting which some foundations were laid open."‡

College.

A college was founded here in 1393, by Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, for nine chaplains; of which, one was to be warden, or master, two of them clerks, and two choristers: it was dedicated to the Holy Trinity, and endowed with extensive possessions. The collegiate church was also made parochial; a licence being granted from the king and the bishop for that purpose. The old church was on the

* Leland, Itin. vol. viii. p. 13. He adds, "Syns one Humfrede duke of Bokingham was buried with his wife and 3 of his sunnes at Plascey, wher of one, as I hard, was erle of Wilshir."

† Leland, Itin. vol. vi. p. 48.

‡ The great mound of the castle has been stated to be upwards of "eight hundred and ninety feet in circumference."

opposite side of the road, the living a rectory, given to the abbey of Walden by Geoffrey de Magnaville, the founder of that house, which presented here till 1389.

Isabel, daughter of the duke of Gloucester, gave an annuity of twenty pounds for twenty years, for three priests to celebrate mass for her. Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham, slain at the battle of Northampton, in 1460, was buried here, with his lady and three of his sons; of whom, John, earl of Wiltshire, gave a hundred marks to purchase lands for three priests and six poor men to pray for his soul, and the souls of his ancestors. He also appointed a church to be built and hallowed to the worship of the Holy Trinity and Our Lady, on the north side of the church, for a mass of Our Lady to be said daily. Anne, his lady, who lies buried with him here, settled forty marks upon them. Sir Henry Stafford, who married Margaret countess of Richmond, mother to king Henry the seventh, (third son to Anne,) appointed his body to be buried here, and gave one hundred and sixty pounds, to buy twelve marks' worth of land to be amortised to find a fitting priest to sing for his soul, in this college for evermore. Edward Stafford, earl of Wiltshire, also founded a perpetual chantry here, richly endowed. The names of the masters are in Newcourt.*

In 1546, king Henry the eighth granted the whole college of Pleshy, and the house and church, and all manors and appertenances to the said college belonging, to sir John Gate, one of the gentlemen of his privy chamber; and this covetous and mean-spirited proprietor, for the sake of the materials, pulled down the chancel; and the body of the church would also have fallen a sacrifice to his avarice, if it had not been purchased by the parishioners, with the steeple and bells, that they might not be destitute of a place of worship. In 1553, on the condemnation of sir John Gate, these possessions again passed to the crown; and, in 1564, were granted by queen Elizabeth, to William Pool and Edward Downing: and in 1589, under a new grant, they were conveyed to William Tipper and Robert Dawe, of whom they were purchased by sir Robert Clarke. In 1560, queen Elizabeth granted a portion of the tithes, and a tenement here, to the dean and chapter of Westminster, by whom they are leased out to the Tufnell family, to whom the other tithes of the parish belong.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, or to the Holy Trinity, was a large cruciform building, with a central tower. The part remaining of this building had been purchased of sir John Gate, and had become quite ruinous, when, chiefly by the munificence of bishop Compton, a good small church of brick was erected, in the year 1708; yet the tower remained ruinous, and there was no chancel till Samuel Tufnell, esq. built one, between the nave and chancel, with a vault for his family under it; he had also five bells re-cast.

Church.

After the dissolution, the church became a donative or perpetual curacy, in the disposal of the owner of the site of the college, with a stipend of eight pounds a year; which, in 1721, was augmented with the donation of two hundred pounds, by the pious

* Vol. ii. p. 471, Thomas Walker was the last master.

BOOK II. and munificent lady Moyer, sister of sir William Joliffe; and, in 1728, with three hundred pounds, by Mrs. Jennings, the daughter and executrix of this lady.*

This parish, in 1821, contained two hundred and eighty-nine, and in 1881, three hundred and twenty inhabitants.

HIGH EASTER, OR ESTRE.

High
Easter.

This considerably large parish lies west-north-west from Pleshy, and its distinguishing appellation of High may be supposed to be applied because the ground is higher than that of the contiguous parish of Good Easter. In circumference it is computed to be upwards of twenty miles. The name in records is *Estre*, or *Ester*, and in Domesday *Estra*; the modern orthography of Easter being unauthorised. It is remarked by Mr. Salmon, in treating of this parish, that the termination of *tree*, corrupted from *street*, is of frequent occurrence, as “Edwinstre and Estree, in Hertfordshire, and Becontree in Essex.” He therefore believes this name came from “East-street,” or rather “the village east of the street.” Both the Estres, and also Pleshy, are on the eastern side of a Roman road, which, by the Saxons, would be called a street. The village contains some good houses and shops. From Danmow it is distant six, and from London thirty miles.

Previous to the Conquest, this parish belonged to the abbey of Ely, and had, in the

Inscrip-
tions.

* Inscriptions.—“M.S. In a vault under this monument lieth the remains of sir William Joliffe, eldest son of John Joliffe, esq. descended from an ancient and honourable family in the county of Stafford. He was member of parliament for Heytesbury, during the reign of king Charles the second. Sir William, in private life, was a steady friend, a generous relation, and of extensive benevolence. He represented in parliament the borough of Petersfield, in Hampshire, and by his conduct proved himself a disinterested lover of his country. Dying a bachelor, he left the bulk of his large estate to his nephews. This monument was erected by Samuel Tuffnell, of Langleys, in this county, and John Joliffe, of Petersfield, in Hampshire, esquires, in gratitude to his memory, Ob. 7 March, 1749, æt. 85.” Arms: Argent, on a pile vert three dexter hands coupéd at the wrist—of the field. Crest: An arm in armour, holding a cimeter proper.

On another very elegant marble monument, with the arms, over a bust: “In a vault under this chancel lie the remains of Samuel Tuffnell, esq. late of Langleys, near this place, descended from a family which was situated at Hadley, in the county of Middlesex. His grandfather, Richard Tuffnell, esq. was member of parliament for the borough of Southwark, in the reign of king Charles the second. About the year 1783, Mr. Tuffnell was appointed one of the plenipotentiaries to assist at the congress held at Antwerp, where he resided some years, for settling the barrier treaty, tariff, &c. with the Austrians and Dutch. He represented in parliament the boroughs of Colchester and Maldon in this county, and Marlow, in Buckinghamshire, and discharged the duties of these several public stations through which he passed, with ability and unblemished honour. In private life, many virtuous and able qualities did not less adorn him. He married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of George Cressener, esq. of Great Tey, in this county, and by her left issue three sons; John Joliffe, George, and William, and two daughters, Elizabeth and Maria Anna. He died 27 Dec. 1758, aged 76. In this vault lie likewise interred, Elizabeth and Rebecca, sisters to the said Samuel Tuffnell, who both died unmarried. This monument was erected by his eldest and most affectionate son, John Joliffe Tuffnell, esq. of Langleys, to perpetuate the remembrance due to his worth, and as a memorial of his gratitude to the best of fathers.” Arms: Azure on a fesse between three ostrich feathers ar. as many martlets sable.

Confessor's reign, been seized by Algar stallere, cónstable of the army, as his title imports: to persuade him to surrender this possession, a life estate had been granted to him, but the Conqueror ordered him to be seized and imprisoned for life; and his estate, which in the record is on this occasion named Estra, he gave to Geoffrey de Magnaville. There are six manors.

The manor of High Estre-bury is near the west-end of the church-yard. On the decease of the first lord he was succeeded by his son William; his grandson Geoffrey, earl of Essex, who died in 1144; and the two sons of the latter, successively earls of Essex; Geoffrey, who died in 1166, and William in 1189. Beatrix de Say, by marriage, conveyed it to Geoffrey Fitz-Piers, who in her right was earl of Essex. Their successors were their two sons, Geoffrey, surnamed de Mandeville, who died in 1216, and William in 1227. Henry de Bohun, earl of Hereford, and lord high constable of England, marrying Maud, heiress of the house of Mandeville, she brought him this estate. Humphrey de Bohun, their son, fifth of the name, died in possession of it in 1274, as did also his grandson Humphrey, who died in 1298; it afterwards descended through a succession of heirs male to Humphrey, the tenth of the name, who died in 1371, leaving only two daughters, Alianor, married to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, who, at the time of his tragical death, held this manor in right of his lady, who died in 1399, leaving High Estre to Anne, one of her daughters, co-heiresses, who conveyed it to her husband Edmund, earl of Stafford, on whose decease, in 1403, it passed, as the manor of Pleshy did, to king Henry the fifth, who annexed it to the dutchy of Lancaster; and king Richard the third, to engage Henry Stafford, duke of Buckingham, to be of his party, made him a grant of this manor, with the rest of the Bohun estates, in 1483, but his enjoyment of it was of short continuance; it soon afterwards reverted to the crown as part of the dutchy of Lancaster. It was sold, in 1629, by king Charles the first, to the citizens of London, for money he had borrowed of them. It afterwards became the property of the rev. Richard Master, rector of Woodford, of whose son it was purchased by John Joliffe Tufnell, esq.

High
Estre-
bury.

The manor-house of Hayrons is a mile from the church southward, on the left-hand side of the road to Good Estre. It is, an ancient mansion moated round. The dignified families who have had this estate in succession since the Conquest are those of Mandeville, Hayron, Gedge, and Glascock.

Hayrons.

The mansion-house of Mannocks is a mile from the church east-north-eastward, and a quarter of a mile from the road to Dunmow; it formerly consisted of two manors, named Bellows, or Bellhouse, and Powers; both these estates were holden of Anne, duchess of Buckinghamshire, as of her hundred of Ongar, by John Mannock,*

Mannocks

* This family is of great antiquity, said to have flourished in England from the time of the Danish monarchy. In the time of Edward the third, they were seated at Stoke, by Neyland, and purchased Gifford's Hall in the reign of Henry the sixth: they had Camoys, and other estates, and were lords of Great Gravensdon, in Huntingdonshire, from the time of the Conquest.

BOOK II.

esq. who died in 1476. He had married Jane Waldgrave a few weeks previous to his decease, leaving George, his son and heir by a former wife, who married Katharine Waldgrave, sister of his mother-in-law: he was fined for refusing to be made a knight of the bath, on the creation of Henry, prince of Wales (afterwards king Henry the eighth), for which offence he received a pardon in 1504. His son and successor William, was of Camoys Hall, in Toppesfield, and married Audry, daughter of John Allington, esq. of Westele, in Cambridgeshire, and on his death in 1557, left Francis, his son, his successor: who marrying Mary, daughter of William Fitch, esq. of Little Canfield, was succeeded in this possession, on his decease in 1590, by his son William, who married Etheldreda, daughter of Ferdinando Parys, esq. of Linton, whose eldest son, his successor in 1615, was created a baronet in 1627. He married Dorothy, daughter of William Saunders, esq. and dying in 1684, left his son, sir Francis Mannoek, who married Mary, daughter of George Heneage, by whom he had five daughters. Living in the time of the civil wars, and wishing to escape the ruinous effects of fines and sequestrations, he sold this estate, which sometime afterwards became the property of T. Brand, esq. of Hide Hall, near Ingatestone.

Garnets
and
Merks.

The manor-house of Garnets and Merks is two miles from the church, near Bishop's Green, on the road to Dunmow. This estate belonged to Geoffrey Garnet in 1165, and continued in his family till 1350. In the reign of Edward the third, it had come into the possession of Thomas Gate, esq. the father of William; whose successor, sir Geoffrey, was a celebrated soldier, and held important offices. He died in 1477, and Agnes his widow was re-married to William Bromlac, with whom she enjoyed the estate till her decease in 1487, and was succeeded by William, the son of her first husband, who married Mabel, daughter and heiress of Thomas Copdow,* of this parish, and had by her Geoffrey; and Anne, married to Thomas Darcy, esq. uncle of Thomas lord Darcy, of Chich. Sir Geoffrey marrying Elizabeth, daughter of William Clopton, esq. had sir John, sir Geoffrey, sir Henry, and William, who died without issue, and Dorothy, married to Thomas Jocelyn. On the death of sir Geoffrey the father, his son, the celebrated sir John Gate, succeeded, who greatly improved and made considerable additions to the estate; which after his violent death in 1553, went with his other estates to the crown, and was, in 1558, granted, by queen Mary, to Richard Weston, one of the judges of the king's-bench, who, in 1561, sold it to Kenelm Throckmorton and John Paviott; and, in 1563, it was sold to William Fitch, esq. whose son Thomas was his heir. Afterwards passing to the Dyer family, of Dunmow, it was sold, in 1740, together with Newton Hall, to sir Brownlow Sherard, but that contract having never been legalised, John Henniker, esq. became the purchaser.

Berwicks.

The manor of Berwicks, partly in this parish, has the mansion nearly four miles south-westward from the church. It was holden under Humphrey de Bohun, earl of

* Arms of Copdow: Argent, three piles en point, gules.

Hereford and Essex, by sir Ralph Berners, in the time of Edward the first: Edmund was his son. It had passed to the crown in the time of Edward the sixth; and that king, in 1547, gave it, as parcel of the dutchy of Lancaster, to sir John Gate: it was afterwards in possession of the Capel family.

CHAP.
IX.

There is a hamlet in this parish named Pentlow End, vulgarly Pantlo.

Pentlow.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is large and lofty, containing a nave, north aisle, and chancel, of which the upper part has been named Garnet's chancel, having been the burial-place of that family. There is a handsome gallery at the west end of the church, and behind it a stately tower, in which there are five very good bells; above which there is a spire leaded. The roof of the church is traditionally said to have been raised several feet, and supported with curiously carved timbers. This improvement is believed to have been effected by sir Geoffrey Gate, about the year 1460, who also erected, at the same time, a new chancel. Among the ornamental carvings several gates are represented, supposed to be the cognizances of this family.

Church.

This church was given, by Geoffrey de Mandeville, to the monastery of Walden, and the donation confirmed by king Stephen and Henry the second, and the vicarage continued in the patronage of the abbot and convent till their dissolution; after which the rectory impropriate, which is a manor, was granted, in 1538, to Thomas lord Audley. But king Edward the sixth settled it on the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, with the advowson of the vicarage, of which they have ever since continued patrons, the rectory being held under them by lease.*

In 1821, this parish contained eight hundred and nineteen, and, in 1831, eight hundred and sixty-two inhabitants.

GOOD EASTER.

This parish lies between Pleshy and Mashbury, extending eastward from the ancient Roman road to the extremity of the hundred; it is computed to be ten miles in circumference: distant from Dunmow eight, from Chelmsford seven, and from London thirty miles.

Good
Easter

* The following inscriptions, formerly here, have been preserved by Mr. Salmon:

" Pray for the soul, all ye that live in light,
Of sir Jeffry Gate, the courteous knight;
Whose wife is buried here; by God's might,
He bought the manor of Garnets by right

Of Coppedo gentilman lyon behight,
Of Hiest' witness his wyff and executor
This yere and day come on his dely powers
xxii day January, 1456."

Inscrip-
tions.

" Here lyeth dame Agnes Gate, wife of syr Geoffrey Gate, knt. the which syr Geoffrey Gate was six yere captain of the Isle of Wight, and after that marshal of Caleis; there kept with the Pikards worshipful waris intended as a good knight to please the kyng in the pties of Normdi with all his might. The which Agnes dyed the ix of Dec. 1480, whose soule Jhu have mercy."

BOOK II.

In Domesday book the name is written Estra; and, before the Conquest, it belonged to Ailmar, a king's thane, but after that event was given, by earl Eustace, to the collegiate church of St. Martin-le-Grand, in London, founded in 700, by Vicedred, or Withrid, king of Kent; rebuilt and more sumptuously endowed, in 1056, by Angelric, and Girard his brother, two noble Saxons; whose foundation and appropriation of this estate was confirmed by the Conqueror in 1068. From this period the name appears in records Godicestre, Godichester, and God's Easter; supposed from the usual expression of "giving to God" what is appropriated to his service; the English words God and Good being both derived from the Saxon *Gōd*. This parish was also named the prebend of Good Easter, and the church said to be a prebendal church, because wholly appropriated to the college of St. Martin; four of the prebendaries having their endowments here, each of which had a house; Fawkeners, on the south side of the church; Imbers, opposite to it, on the right hand; Bowers, behind the vicarage; Paslows, below it, being a large house, moated round. These were reckoned distinct manors, afterwards consolidated into two.

In the time of Edward the first, or Edward the second, Peter de Cusance, of White Roding, held two carucates of land here, under two of the prebends, who were aliens; and he perfidiously sold great part of the estate to John Pointon and his heirs, on which account the dean and chapter presented a petition to the king and council.

Good Easter, with the adjoining berewic of Mashbury, and other possessions, was given, by Henry the seventh, in 1492, with the collegiate church of St. Martin-le-Grand, and the sanctuary belonging to it, to the monastery of St. Peter, of Westminster, where it continued till the dissolution, and remained exempt from the jurisdiction of the bishop, or archdeacon, till Edward the sixth placed it under the government of the bishop of London: on the dissolution of Westminster Abbey, in 1539, all its possessions passing to the crown, were, by king Henry the eighth, in 1540, made part of the endowment of his newly-erected bishopric of Westminster: after the dissolution of which, in 1542, this parish, with the rectory and advowson of the vicarage, were granted to sir Richard Rich and his heirs: and, in 1544, the king granted him the yearly tenths; of which he died possessed in 1566, as did also his son Robert, in 1580; followed by his great grandson Robert, earl of Warwick in 1618, whose son Robert sold them, in 1620, to sir Henry Mildmay, of Graces, with all his possessions in Good Easter, except the advowson of the vicarage and spiritual jurisdiction, which his grand-daughter, Elizabeth Waterson, sold, to James Bonnel, esq. from whom these possessions descended to his posterity.

Newarks.

The manor of Newarks, or Newland's fee, is on the side of the road to Roxwell, distant a mile and a half south-eastward from the church. It was purchased of Richard lord Rich, by sir Robert Clarke, baron of the exchequer, who made it the

place of his residence; and who, on his decease in 1606, left it to his posterity:* he married first Dorothy, daughter of John Maynard, esq. and sister to sir Henry Maynard, by whom he had two sons and eight daughters, of whom Jane was married to sir Kenelm Jenoure, bart.; Melicent, to sir Thomas Nightingale, bart.; Esther, to — King; another daughter to — Cutting; and another to — Still; Sarah and Clemence were the other daughters. Robert, the younger son, had the manor of Gibbecrake, in Purley. The elder son was sir Robert Clarke, knt. whose son and heir was Robert, and whose daughter Jane, married to — Utbert, was the mother of Elizabeth, who, by her husband, Thomas Hutchinson, esq. had Mary, married to — Harrison, on whose decease she, during her widowhood, possessed this estate, and conveyed it, by marriage, to the rev. Charles Philips, vicar of Terling.

In 1459, the manor of Wares, which was holden by Alice Strange of the dean of St. Martin's, was left to her grandson and heir, John Skrene, who died in 1474. It was in the possession of James Gedge, esq. of Newland Hall, in Roxwell, in 1555, who held it of the queen, as of her dutchy of Lancaster, and left it to his three daughters, co-heiresses. It afterwards belonged to sir Samuel Thwayt, knt. of Newland Hall, who, on his decease in 1636, left it to his son Samuel. It afterwards belonged to John Nash, of London.

Wares.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, has a nave, south aisle and chancel, with a stone tower, above which there is a handsome, tall, wooden spire: there are five bells. From stone arches in the walls of the chancel, there seem to have been several cells, or chapels.†

Church.

In 1821, this parish contained four hundred and thirty-eight, and, in 1891, four hundred and eighty-seven inhabitants.

MASHBURY.

This very small parish extends south-eastward from Good Easter; the name in records is Mascebery, Massebirig, Maissebery, Maysbury, Messebery, supposed a corruption of Macy's capital mansion, or bury, from Macy, whose name appears in an ancient writing as the possessor of a knight's fee here.

Mashbury

The lands of this parish, previous to the Conquest, were in the possession of a free-woman named Alueva: after the Conqueror had given it to Uluric, an encroachment is stated to have been made of this possession by Geoffrey de Magnaville: part of it

* Arms of Clarke: Argent, on a fesse sable, three crosses fitché, or, between two chevrons of the second. Otherwise, or, on a bend engrailed, azure, a plate argent. Crest: On a torse, or and azure, a greyhound sejant, sable.

† Inscription in the church: "Under this stone lies buried the body of Margaret Norrington, wife of Thomas Norrington, daughter of Edward Norrington Bugg, gent. who deceased Jan. 27, 1610."

Inscription.

Charity.—An annuity of about five pounds has been left by an unknown benefactor; for the repairs of the church.

Charity.

BOOK II. was a hamlet to Good Easter, and extended into the hundred of Chelmsford. After passing to the Mandeville family, where it continued for several generations, it passed to that of Fitz-Piers, and was conveyed, by the marriage of Maud, daughter of Geoffrey Fitz-Piers, earl of Essex, to Henry de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex, who was succeeded by his two daughters and co-heiresses, Eleanor, married to Thomas of Woodstock, and Mary, to Henry Plantagenet, afterwards king Henry the fourth, who had this included in his share of the Bohun estates; and he annexed it to the dutchy of Lancaster; after which it appears to have formed part of the dower of the queens of England, till it was, in 1544, granted, by Henry the eighth, to Geoffrey Lukyn, whose posterity retained possession till the estate was sold, by William Lukyn, in 1554, to sir William Petre, whose descendants have retained this possession to the present time.

Mashbury Hall, which is the most considerable estate in the parish, is on the south side of the church.

Church. The church is a plain building tiled; in the steeple there are three bells.

In 1821, this parish contained eighty-five, and, in 1831, ninety-six inhabitants.

GREAT CANFIELD.

**Great
Canfield.**

Lands extending northward to Takeley and Great Dunmow, to High Roding and Hatfield Broadoak southward, and from Hallingbury westward to Little Dunmow on the east, have been made to form two parishes, named Great and Little Canfield. The larger of these is distinguished by the appellation of "Ad Castrum," i.e. at the castle, from a castle which formerly stood here, on the site of which there is an artificial mount of earth, planted with trees; and a deep moat surrounds what was the outer court of the castle. This fortress appears to have occupied about two acres, and having belonged to the De Veres, is believed to have been erected by one of the first of that family.*

In Edward the Confessor's reign, Ulwin and Eddeva were in possession of this parish, which at the survey was holden under Alan, earl of Bretagne, by Alberic de Vere.

The situation of this parish is healthy and pleasant; it is eight miles in circumference:

* It has been supposed that Eddeva might have built a fortification here, before the Conquest, after she had sold Stortford castle to the bishop of London: or, this castle might be built by Alberic de Vere, during the war between Maud and Stephen. Or, De Vere might fortify this place, on the demolishing of the bishop's castle of Weytemore, by king John, on the bishop's executing the pope's interdict. Weytemore was the chief place of strength in this part of the country, which seems to have been erected during the octarchy; because the estates subject to the payment of Castle-guard lie on the Essex side of the bank which passed through Hertfordshire from Theobalds to Barley; and this was their defence against inroads from Mercia.—*N. Salmon's Hist. of Essex*, p. 217.

the village, which is small, is distant from Great Dunmow four, and from London thirty-five miles.

CHAP.
IX.

The family of De Vere retained this possession from the time of the Conquest till Edward, the seventeenth earl of Oxford, sold it to John Wiseman, esq. son of sir John Wiseman, one of the auditors to Henry the eighth, who had previously, in 1548, purchased here of John, earl of Oxford, a messuage, with Great Canfield park, containing two hundred and sixty acres of land in Great and Little Canfield, Takeley and Hatfield Regis. He died in 1558, and was buried in this church with his lady Agnes, daughter of sir Ralph Jocelyn, lord mayor of London in 1464. In this family it continued till sir Thomas Wiseman,* in 1733, conveyed it to Thomas Hucks, or Godfrey Woodward; and it was afterwards conveyed to Nathan Cooper, of St. Giles's, whose daughter and co-heiress conveyed it, in marriage, to William Perkin,

Wiseman
family.

* The offspring of sir John Wiseman and his lady Agnes were John; William, and another son, who both died young; Robert, gentleman pensioner to queen Elizabeth, who had five wives, yet died without issue; Thomas, who died in 1563, and was buried in Chelmsford church; Philippa, wife of William Glascock, and of Andrew Pascall; Margaret, wife of — Everard, and of — Church; Margery, wife of John Pascall, of Great Badow, and afterwards of — Reade; Clemence, wife of Richard Everard, of Waltham; Katharine, wife of Thomas Young, of Roxwell; and Anne, wife of — Lindhill, and afterwards of John Glascock, of Roxwell. John, the eldest son and heir of sir John Wiseman, and the purchaser of this manor, died in 1602. He married Margery, daughter of sir William Waldegrave, of Smallbridge, by whom he had eight sons and daughters; Joanna, married to Nicholas Brocket, of Willingale Dou; and Agnes, wife of Thomas Fitch, esq. of Little Canfield and High Easter, and afterwards of Geo. Wingate, esq.; John, Robert, William, who was a monk, Thomas, Edmund of Little Maplested, and Andrew. John Wiseman succeeding his father, married Anne, daughter of John Leventhorp, and had by her an only daughter, who died young. He was succeeded on his decease by Thomas, the fourth son, who marrying Alice, daughter and heiress of Robert Myles, esq. of Suffolk, had Robert, William, John, William, Kenelm, Edward; Mary, married to Thomas Bolton, of Woodbridge; Susan, and Parnel. Robert, the eldest son, who had this manor and rectory, with the advowson of the vicarage, and the manor and tithes of Little Maplested, died without issue in 1628, and was succeeded by William, the second son, knighted and created a baronet in 1628, and constituted sheriff of the county in 1638. Being in the service of king Charles the first, he died at Oxford, and was buried there; Elizabeth, his lady, daughter of sir Henry Capel, son and heir of Arthur, afterwards lord Capel, died in 1660, and was buried in this church. Sir William Wiseman, bart. married first Anne, daughter and co-heiress of sir John Prescott, knt. by whom he had no children: he married, secondly, Arabella, fifth daughter of sir Thomas Hewet, bart. of Pishobury, in Hertfordshire, by whom he had thirteen children; of whom William and George died young, Thomas, and Charles succeeded to the estate; John was a barrister of the Temple; Arabella died young; Anne was married to general Henry Ligonier; Margaret, Jane, and Mary, died young; Arabella, the youngest, was married to Thomas Stisted, of Ipswich, attorney at law. Sir William, the father, died in 1684, and his successor was his son, sir Thomas Wiseman, who, dying unmarried, in 1733, was succeeded by his next brother, sir Charles, who also died unmarried in 1751. The present representative of this family is sir William Saltonstall Wiseman, capt. R. N. of Canfield Hall, who succeeded to the title and estate in 1910, and, in 1912, married Catharine, daughter of sir James Mackintosh, who died in 1822, leaving a son, Edmund, heir apparent. Arms of Wiseman: Sable, a chevron, ermine, between three coronels, argent. Crest: On a wreath, a castle triple-towered, or, port open, argent; out of it a demi-moor, proper; in his right hand a dart, plumed and barbed, or; in his left hand a Roman target, or.

BOOK II. of Westminster; and his two daughters, Sarah and Elizabeth, sold it to William Peers, from whom it was conveyed to John Jones, esq.

Great Canfield Park, a considerable time in possession of the Wiseman family, in 1561, was sold, by Thomas Wiseman, to William Fitch, and afterwards conveyed to the Maynard family.

Church. The church is of one pace with the chancel; it has a stone tower, with four bells, above which there is a wooden parapet and shaft. Formerly there was a lofty spire, which having become ruinous, was taken down by order of the bishop.*

Alberic de Vere, the first earl of Oxford, gave this church to the priory of Hatfield Regis, who ordained a vicarage here, of which they retained the patronage till their dissolution, when passing to the crown it was, in 1553, granted, by Edward the sixth, to Thomas Cecil, from whom it passed to the Wisemans and other proprietors.

In 1821, this parish contained four hundred and thirty-four, and, in 1831, five hundred and eleven inhabitants.

LITTLE CANFIELD.

Little Canfield. The village of Little Canfield is on the high road from Great Dunmow to Bishop Stortford; from which latter town it is distant seven, and from London thirty-five miles. The parish occupies a pleasant and healthy part of the county.†

Previous to the Conquest, this parish belonged to two freemen, and to Ansgar and

Inscriptions. * Inscriptions: "In memory of sir William Wiseman, bart. who married Anne, daughter and one of the co-heirs of sir John Prescott, by whom he had no issue; who since married Arabella, daughter of sir Thomas Hewett, bart. and Margaret his wife, of Pishoberry, Herts, by whom he had thirteen children, whereof eight are surviving, viz. Thomas, William, George, Charles, John, Anne, Margaret, Arabella; he died Jan. 14, and was buried the 23d, 1684, and in the fifty-fifth year of his age."

"Soli dei gloria: In memory of the truly virtuous the lady Anne Wiseman, wife to sir William Wiseman, of this parish, baronet, who put off the troublesome robe of mortality the 11th day of May, 1662, leaving the four-and-twentieth year of her age unfinished, whose body lies here mortgaged to the grave, until the grand jubile; the resurrection."

"Here lyeth Eliza Tyderlegh, eldest daughter of sir William Wiseman, bart. ob. April 23, 1634."

"Here lyeth Jhonn Wiseman, esquier, sometime one of the auditors of our sovereigne lorde kynge Henry theight, of the revenues of the crown, and Agnes his wife; which John dyed Aug. 17, 1558."

"To the memory of lady Elizabeth Wiseman, wife of sir William Wiseman, of this place, bart. and daughter of sir Henry Capel, knt. son and helre of sir Arthur Capel, of Hedham Hall, in the county of Hertford, who died April 6, 1660."

"Here lyeth buried Thomas Fytche, of Hye Estre, esq. who had to his wif Agnes, the daughter of Jahn Wyseman, esquier, and had issue by her three sons and three daughters: which Thomas deceased 20th Nov. 1588."

† Remarkable instances of longevity have occurred here. Richard Wyatt, of Little Canfield Hall, attained the age of one hundred years and upwards; and when he was ninety-nine, is said to have walked from this place to Thavies-inn, in London, in one day; his son Richard also attained the same age. Thomas Wood was clerk of Great Canfield church seventy-eight years, and died in May 1788, aged 106 years. He kept his bed only one day, and could read without spectacles to the last.

Ulwin; and at the survey had become the property of William de Warren, Geoffrey de Magnaville, and Alberic de Vere, and was consequently divided into three manors. The manor-house of Little Canfield Hall is a mile northward from the church; the estate is what at the survey belonged to William de Warren, and continued the property of his posterity till the extinction of the family in John, the eighth and last earl of Warren, Surrey, and Sussex, who dying in 1347, Alice, his sister, by marriage conveyed this estate to Edmund Fitz-alan, earl of Arundel and Surrey; whose successors were Richard, another Richard, beheaded in 1397, whose son Thomas was restored in blood in 1399, but dying without issue in 1414, his four sisters became his co-heiresses: Elizabeth was married first to William, son of William Montacute, earl of Salisbury; secondly, to Thomas Mowbray, duke of Norfolk and earl of Surrey; thirdly, to sir Robert Goushill, and, lastly, to sir Gerard Uffleet; Joan, the second sister, was married to William Beauchamp, lord Abergavenny; Margaret was married to sir Rowland Lenthall, and afterwards to — Tresham; and Alice, to John Charleton, lord Powis, under whom this estate was holden by sir John Hende, and afterwards by his heirs. It afterwards became the property of the Fitch family, originally of Fitches, in Widdington, from whence descended two branches, one of which settled at Brazenhead, in Lindsell, and the other at this place.

CHAP.
IX.
Little
Canfield
Hall.

William,* the eldest son of Thomas Fitch, of Brazenhead, died in possession of this manor in 1578, and it continued the property of his descendants till it was sold, by sir William Fitch, knt. to sir Henry Maynard, knt. whose descendants have retained this possession to the present time.

Fitch
family.

Lands called Hodings belong to this lordship. They were holden of the earl of Oxford by Walter de Hoding, in 1302, and supposed to be what was holden in 1397; as the fourth of a knight's fee, by Margaret Sheering; by John Boucher in 1446, and by Thomas Moore in the reign of Elizabeth.

Hodings.

The manor of Langthorns was holden by Richard, earl of Arundel, of Humphrey de Bohun, who died in 1372; and John Someray, who died in 1416, had this manor for life, as the gift of Thomas, earl of Arundel. William Scott, esq. of Chigwell, held it of the dutchy of Lancaster, and it descended to his son, John Scott, who died in 1526, and was succeeded by his cousin, Walter Scott. It afterwards belonged to Ady Collard, esq. of Bernston, who left it by will to — Howland, esq. This manor is what belonged to Geoffrey de Magnaville at the time of the survey.

Lang-
thorns.

* William Fitch, by his first wife Elizabeth, had two sons and three daughters; and by his second wife Anne, daughter of John Wiseman, of Felsted, had Thomas, and three others, who died without offspring. Thomas, the eldest son of Thomas and Anne Fitch, married Agnes, daughter of John Wiseman, esq. of Great Canfield, by whom he had three sons and three daughters: on his decease in 1588, his eldest son William was his heir, who dying in 1608, without issue, was succeeded by sir William Fitch, the son of his brother Thomas, who sold this estate.

BOOK II.

Stone
Hall.

Stone Hall is a reputed manor, its name derived from the mansion being of stone; it lies north-eastward from the church, and the lands belonging to it extend to Little Easton and Dunmow. This estate is supposed to be that which Nicholas de Aldithely, or Audley, claimed against Drogo, son of William de Barentyn, and Robert de Bray. Thomas Raven is mentioned as of this place in a deed dated 1385; and it passed from him to Thomas Nuttal; succeeded by Thomas Rampston: it afterwards belonged to Robert Rampston, esq. yeoman of the chamber to Edward the sixth, queen Mary, and Elizabeth. He charged his estate with twenty-two pounds in yearly charity to the poor of several parishes in Essex, and to certain prisons in Middlesex.* He died in 1585, and was buried in Chingford church, where his wife Margaret was afterwards laid: previous to her marriage with him, she was the widow of — Blencoe, and her second husband left this estate to her son, Nicholas Blencoe, esq. who died in 1625, and was succeeded by a son or relation of the same name, who mortgaged it to Thomas Gwillim, esq. of Highgate, and he, in 1647, sold it to Charles Howland, esq. third son of William Howland, of this parish, who left it to his brother George; succeeded in this possession by George his son, father of Charles, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Matthew Pinchback, of Great Dunmow, by whom he had seven sons and two daughters. Matthew, the eldest son, married Hannah, daughter of George Coldham, esq. of Haverhill, by whom he had several sons and daughters.†

Howland
family.

Church.

The church is small, and of one pace with the chancel: a small belfry, with a wooden spire, contains three bells.‡

* The places to receive this donation were, Chingford, three pounds; Waltham Holy Cross, two pounds; Walthamstow, two pounds; Woodford, one pound; Loughton, one pound; Chigwell, two pounds; Wansted, one pound; East Ham, one pound; West Ham, one pound; Layton, one pound; Enfield, two pounds; to Newgate, King's Bench, and Marshalsea prisons, each one pound; to both Compters, ten shillings each.

† Arms of Howland: Argent, two bars, and three lions rampant, sable, in chief. Crest: An ounce, passant, sable gorged with a ducal coronet, or.

‡ The vestry is on the north side of the chancel, and has the following inscription over the door: "This vestry, with the vault underneath it, designed for the burial-place of himself and family, was erected by James Wyatt, esq. in the year 1757; who also, in the following year, contributed the sum of sixty guineas for completing the ceiling of the church, and covering the spire with lead."

Inscrip-
tions.

Inscriptions.—"James Wyatt, of Little Canfield Hall, to the memory of his dear father, and ancestors."
"Richard Wyatt, who died May 5, 1664, aged 100 years. Richard, son of Richard Wyatt, who died Feb. 6, 1696, also aged 100 years. Richard Wyatt, gentleman, who died May 9, 1715. Richard Wyatt, gent. of Little Canfield Hall, who died Feb. 7, 1741, aged 82. Mrs. Elizabeth Wyatt, relict of Richard Wyatt, the elder, who died Dec. 16, 1730, aged 90. John Wyatt, gent. son of Richard Wyatt, died July 4, 1757, aged 68." Arms of Wyatt: Gules, a fesse, or, with three boar's heads coupés, argent, between three lions rampant, sable. Crest: on a closed helmet, and a torse azure and or, a lion rampant, sable, mantled argent, doubled gules.

"Here lyeth buried under this stone the body of William Fytche, esq. late lord of this towne, which had two wyffes, Elizabeth and Ann; and the said William had yssue by Elizabeth his first wyffe, two

This church and rectory were given to the priory of Lewes, in Sussex, probably by William de Warren, the founder of that house, in 1078: on the dissolution of monasteries, it was granted, by Henry the eighth, to Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex, on whose attainder, again passing to the king, he, in 1545, granted it to James Gunter and William Lewis, who sold the advowson of this rectory to William Glascock, whose descendants presented to it about one hundred years: after which it was purchased by Christ's College, Cambridge.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and forty-nine, and in 1831, to two hundred and seventy-seven.

THE RODINGS.

Eight parishes (originally nine) in this part of the county have retained the ancient Saxon name of Rodings, in the record of Domesday, Rodinges, the Ings or Meadows by the Rodon, on the borders of which river they are situated.* This district is of considerable extent, and forms the first of the eight divisions of the county adopted by Mr. Arthur Young, to assist in distinguishing the characteristic varieties of soil. The division referred to, has been named the "crop and fallow," and also the "district of the Rodings:" the whole of what has been so distinguished extends from Willingale Doe on the south, to Wimbish northward; and from Felsted on the east, to Hallingbury on the west. The soil here is described as a strong, wet, heavy, reddish or brown loam upon a whitish marly clay; not yielding good crops without hollow draining and good husbandry. The whole district is hilly, and the surface loam in the vales is better and drier than on the hills, forming in some instances a very good soil.† Formerly the

The
Rodings.

sonnes and three daughters, and by Anne his second wyffe, foure sonnes, and the sayde William being of the age of 82 yeres, changed this life on the 20th Dec. 1578."

"Aun, daughter of John Wiseman, esq. of Felsted, first married to Thomas Fliche, esq. sometime lord of this parish, by whom she had Thomas, William, and Francis; after her first husband's death, she was married to Ralph Pudsor, esq. of Gray's-inn: she died Dec. 3, 1593."

"Thomas Rodea, of Takely, gent. ob. Aug. 17, 1657."

"The rev. Thomas Atherson, M.A., rector of this parish, who died June 14, 1749, aged 64. A pious and learned divine."

* A Correspondent to the Gentleman's Magazine considers the derivation of the name of the Roodings, or Rodings, from the river Rodon, to be erroneous; observing, that there were nine stations for pilgrims, in the respective parishes, still bearing the surname of Rooding, or, as sometimes written, Ruding; and as these stations were formerly called Rood stations, a term derived from the holy rood, or cross, it is more than probable the name has had this origin. To these stations, there were very lucrative emoluments attached; but what is very remarkable, though these facts are currently reported in the county, no mention of them is made by Camden.—*Gent. Mag.* vol. xci. p. 64.

† The crop and fallow system, as it is managed here, is considered by the inhabitants to be the only mode that can be pursued with success; the average annual produce being, wheat 24, and barley 36, bushels per acre.

BOOK II. district of the Rodings was proverbially distinguished by the badness of the roads and the uncouth manners of the inhabitants; but great improvement has taken place in these respects.

HIGH RODING.

High
Roding.

This parish receives its distinguishing appellation as lying farther up the stream of the river, and being on higher ground than the others; having been anciently considered as the chief, or most important, it was on that account sometimes named **Great Roding**. Distant from Dunmow five, and from London thirty-four miles.

This parish and Aythorp Roding, previous to the Conquest, belonged to the monastery of Ely; but the monks, for giving shelter to their fugitive countrymen, having incurred the Conqueror's displeasure, were deprived of these possessions, which were given to William de Warren, created earl of Surrey by William Rufus, in 1088; he died the same year, and was succeeded by his son William, earl of Warren and Surrey, who died in 1138, succeeded by his grandson William, in 1148; whose only daughter Isabel, by marriage, conveyed it to William of Blois, who died in 1160, and was succeeded by Hameline Plantagenet in 1201; holden, in 1210 and 1211, by William Plantagenet, who died in 1240: succeeded by John, who died in 1304; whose grandson, John, was his successor, and dying in 1347, without issue, was succeeded by his sister Alice, married to Edmund Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, who, falling a victim to the intrigues of queen Isabel and Roger Mortimer, was beheaded in 1326: Richard his son, restored in blood, died in 1375, and his son, of the same name, was beheaded in 1397. Thomas, earl of Arundel, his son, was restored in blood and to the possession of this and his other estates; and out of this, he is stated to have given ten quarters of wheat yearly, to the prioress of Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire: dying in 1414, without surviving offspring, his sisters became his co-heiresses: these were, Elizabeth, duchess of Norfolk, and, at the duke's decease, married to sir Gerard Ufflet; Joanna de Beauchamp, lady Bergavenny; and Margaret, married to sir Rowland Lenthall. In 1477, Thomas Boteler, earl of Ormond, had this estate: his only daughter was married to sir William Boleyn, father of Thomas Boleyn, earl of Wiltshire, who had two daughters, queen Anne Boleyn, and Mary, married first to William Carey, and afterwards to sir William Stafford; who, in 1554, sold this manor to sir Thomas Jocelyn, and he died in possession of it in 1562; and in whose family it continued about two hundred years.* High Roding-bury, or hall, is near the church;

* This family is of great antiquity, there being twenty-four successive generations in their pedigree. Egidius Jocelyn, a nobleman of Brittany, passed into England in the time of Edward the confessor, and was father of sir Gilbert Jocelyn, who returned into Normandy, and accompanying the Conqueror in his expedition against England, obtained from him the manors of Sempringham; he left issue two sons, Gilbert and Geoffrey. The eldest was born at Sempringham, and founded the Cistercian monastery of that place, the monks of which were, from him, called Gilbertines; he died in 1166, and was canonised

and Newhall Jocelyn, or Davies Hall, is nearly a mile distant from it westward : it is supposed to have been built by some of the Jocelyn family, about a century and a half ago ; it was a large house, with a court and chapel, and in the windows of the hall and parlour there were several coats of arms.*

by pope Innocent the third, in 1202. Geoffrey de Jocelyn (his brother having embraced a religious life) inherited the estate. Thomas Jocelyn was his descendant, who married, in 1229, Maud, daughter and co-heiress of sir John Hyde, of Hyde Hall, in Hertfordshire ; and by this marriage the earls of Roden became possessed of that estate, which they have retained to the present time.

From the time of king Henry the third, this family produce their marriages in the following order : Thomas, son of Thomas and Maud, married Joan, daughter of John Blunt ; Ralph, their son, married Maud, daughter of sir John Sutton ; Geoffrey, their son, married Margaret, daughter of Robert Rokel ; Ralph, their son, married Margaret, daughter of John Palmer ; Geoffrey, their son, married Katharine, daughter of sir Thomas Bray ; Thomas, their son, married Alice, daughter of Lewis Duke ; George, their son, married Maud, daughter of Edmund Bardolf ; John, their son, married Philippa, daughter of William Bradbury ; who had sir Thomas, of High Roding. Sir Thomas Jocelyn, lineally descended from the first sir Thomas, received the honour of knighthood from king Edward the sixth, and married Dorothy, daughter of sir Geoffrey Gate, by whom he had : Thomas and Leonard ; Richard, who succeeded his father ; Henry, who married Anne, heiress of Humphrey Torrel, of Torrel's Hall, in Willingale Dou ; John, a very learned antiquarian, secretary to archbishop Parker, and who was his assistant in collecting materials and writing "*Antiquitates Britannicæ*," (published by that learned prelate). He published, "*Præfatio ad Epistolam Gildæ de Excidio et Conquestu Britannicæ*;" several Saxon collections, with an English version, and a long preface. "*Libri Saxonici qui ad manus Jocelini venerunt; necnon nomine eorum, qui scripserunt Historiam Gentis Anglorum, et ubi extant, per Th. Hearne.*" Also, "*New England's Rarities Discovered, in birds, beasts, fishes, serpents, and plants of that country ; with the remedies used by the natives to cure their diseases, &c.*"

Arms of Jocelyn : Azure, a circular wreath, or torse, argent and sable, with four hawks' bells attached to it, or. Crest : A falcon's leg erased at the thigh proper, belled or. Supporters : Two falcons' wings inverted proper, belled or. Motto : "*Faire mon devoir. To do my duty.*"

* Inscriptions.—"Here lyeth buried the bodyes of Edward Jocelyn, esq. fourth son of sir Thomas Jocelyn, late of Newhall Jocelyns, in the parish of High Rothinge, in the county of Essex, knight of the Bath ; and Mary his wife, the only daughter and heire of John Lambe, late of Middlesex, gent. by whom he had six sones and eight daughters. He died April 15, 1627 : she Feb. 22, 1614."

Inscriptions.

<p>" John Jocelyn, esquire, interred here doth lie, Sir Thomas Jocelyn's third son, of worthy me- mory. Thrice noble was this gentleman by birth, by learning great, By single, chaste, and godly life, he won in heaven a seat. He the year one thousand and five hundred twenty- nine was born, Not twenty yeares old him Cambridge did with two degrees adorn.</p>	<p>King's [should be Queen's] college him a fellow chose, in anno forty-nine, In learning tryde whereto he did his mind alwaies incline. But others took the praise and fame of his deserving wit, And his inventions, as their own, to printing did commit. One thousand six hundred and three, it grieves all to remember, He left this life, (poor's daily friend), the twenty- eighth December."</p>
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Charities : John Jocelyn, of Sawbridgeworth, and his son of the same name, of High Roding, gave six milch kine for ever ; the profits of two of them for the reparation of the church ; the other four for an obit for themselves, and the souls of their ancestors.—In 1616, James Chopping gave thirteen shillings

Charities.

BOOK II.
Church.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a small low building, with a wooden turret and spire, and three bells.

This rectory was given to the priory of Lewes, in Suffolk, by some of the Warten family, the founders of that house; and on the dissolution of monasteries, was, by Henry the eighth, given to Thomas lord Cromwell, on whose attainder it again passed to the crown, and was conveyed, with the manor, to the Jocelyn family.

There is no parsonage-house, nor any traces of its former existence; yet, according to Newcourt, "there were twenty acres of land together, and a hoppet, where the site should be looked for."

In 1621, the population of this parish amounted to three hundred and eighty-eight, and in 1831, to four hundred and five.

AYTROP RODING.

Aytrop
Roding.

The parish of Aytrop or Eythorp Roding is believed to have been named from an ancient possessor, in the time of king Edward the first; in records, it is written Eytrope, Aylthorpe, Gytrop, and Roinges Grumbalds: it extends southward from High Roding; in circumference, computed to be eight miles. Distant from Dunmow six, and from London thirty-two miles.

A nobleman, named Leofwine, was the owner of this parish before the Conquest, which he gave to the abbot and monks of Ely, to atone for the unnatural crime of the murder of his mother. But it was taken from them by king William, and given to William de Warren, except a part of it, holden by Samar, a Saxon; which Eudo Dapifer, and his under-tenant, Turgis, afterwards had. There are three manors.

Aytrop
Roding
Hall.

Aytrop Roding Hall is near the west end of the church. This manor appears to have been made part of the endowment of the bishopric of Ely; for Nigel, the second bishop of that see, granted it to Alberic de Vere, earl of Oxford, by the service of two knights' fees; and, in 1165, Simon de Roinges held two fees of the bishop of Ely; but Alberic had the service of them. And in 1221, the earl of Oxford held four fees here of the bishop; and Robert and William de Roding possessed them in the reign of Henry the third. Afterwards they appear in five generations of a family surnamed De Aytrop, who held under the earls of Oxford, and whose name first occurs in records in the time of Edward the first. In 1337, sir Thomas Weston, brother of sir Humphrey, of Prested Hall, had this estate, which his daughter and co-heiress, Margaret, conveyed, by marriage, to John de Louvaine, of Little Eanton: Alianor, one of

and four pence to the poor, out of a cottage called Hills; and a tenement and two crofts called Tooleys, and two other crofts called Kingsleys, in Great Dunmow, were charged with the payment of twenty shillings for ever to the poor of this parish. The field called Little Rowland, he also gave to the poor.—Sir Strange Jocelyn, and his brother Edward, rector here, endowed a school for teaching poor children: the house is in the Street.

her daughters and co-heiresses, was married to sir William Bouchier; and to this lady, her aunt Isabella, sister and co-heiress with her mother, gave her portion of the estate of sir Thomas Weston; the whole of which, including this manor, appears to have remained in the Bouchier family, till it descended to Anne, daughter of Henry Bouchier, the last earl of Essex of this line, and married to William, marquis of Northampton, who, having advocated the cause of lady Jane Grey, forfeited this with his other estates.

In 1570, this manor was granted by queen Elizabeth to Walter Devereux, viscount Hereford, heir to the marchioness of Northampton, and afterwards earl of Essex. In 1607, Thomas Aylett died in possession of this estate, leaving his son Thomas his heir; whose descendants made a sacrifice of this and other possessions to support the cause of king Charles the first. It belonged to Richard Luther, esq. in 1670, and afterwards became the property of the Barrington family, of Hatfield Broadoak.

The mansion of the manor of Keeres is a mile south-eastward from the church: it was in possession of Thomas Aylett in 1607, who held it of Peter Palmer, esq.; in the time of Charles the first, it was holden by John Eve; and in the writings is named Caros. Sir John Barrington purchased this estate, in 1661, with the sum of six hundred pounds, left by John Gobert, esq. for charitable uses, to which it has been appropriated.

Keeres.

A manorial estate, a mile and a half distant south-eastward from the church, which was holden of Tiltey priory, by Thomas Eve, is named the Grange: it was included in a grant from king Henry the eighth to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, who sold it, in 1538, to Robert Trappes; from whom it passed to a family surnamed Stokes; and to — Dey, whose descendant, Edward Dey, a ship-builder, sold it to Jacob Houblon, esq. of Great Hallingbury.

Friar's
Grange.

The church is a small building, dedicated to the Virgin Mary: it has a wooden turret, with three bells.

Church.

The rectory originally belonged to the chief manor, from which being purchased, it has passed to various proprietors.

In 1821, this parish contained two hundred and thirty-four, and in 1831, two hundred and fifty-nine inhabitants.

WHITE RODING.

This parish extends from Aytrop Roding to the south-western extremity of the hundred, and is bounded on the east by Margaret and Leaden Rodings. The situation is on high ground, healthy and pleasant; and the road to Hatfield Regis passes through the village. Distant from Dunmow eight, and from London twenty-eight miles.

White
Roding.

A freeman, named Turchill, held lands in this parish in the time of the Saxons; but the whole was annexed to the royal demesnes of the Conqueror; and in Domesday

BOOK II.

White
Roding-
bury.

book, the name of Roger de Otburville occurs, as holding of the king, what had belonged to the said Turchill. There are two manors.

The manor of White Roding-bury was in possession of Walter de Merc in 1226, who held it by the sergeantry of keeping the king's falcons or hawks. Sir Walter de Merc, or Merk, was his successor; whose son William was a minor at his father's decease. In 1268, Isabella, daughter of William de Baynays, had this possession, and obtained the grant of a market and a fair. In 1296, the manor and advowson of the church were granted, by king Edward the first, to John de Merks, with remainder to his sister, Cicely de Hastings, wife of Humphrey de Hastings, who held this manor, and that of Cumberton, in Cambridgeshire, at the time of her decease, in 1304, by the service of keeping, for the king's use, two falcons for heron-hawking; and a greyhound, trained to make a heron rise. This estate is afterwards named, sometimes the manor of White Roding, and sometimes of Merks: in 1317, sir Peter de Cusance died in possession of it; and sir William, his son, held it from 1322 to 1329: in 1346, Thomas Longeville held it jointly with his wife Beatrix,* on his decease, married to sir William de Queneton, to whom she is supposed to have given this estate, which, after her decease, he held jointly with his wife Isabel; the remainder in Henry, son of Henry Green, of Isham, and of his heirs. Sir William died in 1374, and Isabel, his lady, in 1387, her heir being sir Henry Green, from whom the estate descended to several collateral branches of the family, till Constance, daughter of Henry, son of John, and grandson of sir Henry Green, conveyed it, by marriage, to John Stafford, son of Humphrey, duke of Buckingham, and earl of Wiltshire: she died in 1475, leaving Edward her son, who died a minor; and this estate went to Humphrey Browne, (sergeant-at-law,) in right of his wife Anne, one of the daughters of sir Henry Vere, of Addington, son of Isabella Green, sister of Henry Green, esq. of Drayton, in Northamptonshire, father of Constance, as before stated. It remained in this family till 1633, when it was purchased by sir Richard Everard; and his son, sir Richard, died in possession of it in 1648. In 1686, it was purchased by John le Neve; and in 1717, had descended to his son of the same name, who sold it to Robert Sumner, esq. merchant, of London, and to — Hookman, esq.

Colville.

The mansion of White Roding-bury is near the church; and that of Merks is about a mile distant from it northward. Colville, or Coverts-hall, was formerly considered as belonging to the manor of White Roding-bury, and passed along with it, till it became the property of the munificent Mrs. Prisca Colburne, when, in 1701, this valuable estate was left by her for the relief of the widows of poor or unfortunate seamen of the parish of Stepney. The house is three quarters of a mile north-west

* John de Longeville was his son, and had Kitchen Hall, in Harlow, but does not appear to have had this estate. Beatrix died in 1349, and John Whiteband, and Roger Greenkirtle, her cousins, were her heirs.

from the church: it was originally a large building, but part of it has been pulled down. CHAP. IX.

The manor-house of Maskels-bury is an ancient building, moated round, about half a mile distant south-eastward from the church; the name does not occur in records till the time of Edward the third: Henry de Broke held it of the king, as of his honour of the count of St. Paul, in 1291, as did also his son John in 1351, whose son and heir was Thomas de Broke; after whom the next possessor was Bartholomew de Fresteling, who sold it to John Pakeman, junior; of whom it was purchased by sir John Hende, citizen and cloth-worker, of London; whose son John dying in possession of it, left his only daughter Joan his heiress, who was married to Walter Writtle, esq.; in whose family the line of descent failing, and Elizabeth, the widow of sir John, having been married after his decease to Ralph Boteler, afterwards baron Sudley, he by her gift, or otherwise, became possessed of this estate; which, on his decease, in 1473, went to one of his sisters, who being married to Haman Bellknap, esq. had by him William, the father of sir Edward Bellknap, who died in 1521, possessed of it, and from whose three sisters, his co-heiresses, it was conveyed, in 1544, to Anthony Cooke, esq. the learned preceptor of king Edward the sixth; after whose decease, in 1576, it was conveyed from his son and heir Richard, to Philip Cotton, esq. who, dying in 1607, left sir Robert Cotton, the son of his brother Thomas, his heir.* Maskels-bury.

Sir John Morris, of Cheping Ongar, marrying Katharine, daughter and heiress of Gabriel Poyntz, esq. of North Okingdon, assumed the name of Poyntz, and had Maskels-bury at the time of his decease, in 1618: his successor was his son, sir James Poyntz, who died in 1623; Richard, his son and heir, died unmarried in 1643; and his sister Anne, married to sir Fulke Greville, had this estate, which was sold to sir Robert Abdy, ancestor of sir William Abdy, bart. of Felix Hall.

Morell Roding was formerly a parish, but has become a hamlet to White Roding, yet the suit and service of the court-leet, by ancient custom, belongs to the hundred of Harlow. Before the Conquest, it was holden under Wisgar by Coleman, a free Roding Morell.

* He was born in 1570, and in his eighteenth year began to collect ancient records, charters, and other MSS. Camden, Selden, and Speed, acknowledge their obligations to him. He was highly esteemed by queen Elizabeth, and by James the first, who created him a baronet. He was the author of numerous publications on political and other subjects; but our principal obligation to him is for his valuable library of curious MSS. which he was forty years in collecting. He died in 1631, and left this collection to his family, though designed for public use; it had been much enlarged by private benefactions, before his death, as it was afterwards by the purchases of his heirs, and donations of others, who added to it a great number of books, chiefly relating to the history and antiquities of Britain. In 1700, at the request of sir John Cotton, an act of parliament was obtained for preserving it after his decease, under the denomination of the Cottonian Library, for public use, and it is now fixed in the British Museum. Statutes relating to it are, 12th and 13th of William III. cap. 5, and 5th Anne, cap. 30.

BOOK II. tenant, and belonged to Richard Fitz-Gislebert at the time of the survey. In 1392, Thomas Stafford, earl of Stafford, died possessed of this estate, from whom it passed to his brother, earl William, in 1398; to Edmund in 1402, and to Henry Stafford, duke of Buckingham, in 1548.

Cames Hall The manor-house is supposed to have received its name of Kemys, or Cames, from an ancient possessor of the family of Camoys. Andrew Prior held this manor of Edward, duke of Buckingham, at the time of his decease in 1507, whose heir and successor was his son John: in 1646, it was in the possession of John Prest, esq. whose descendants held it till the time of king Charles the first, when, in 1638, it was in possession of Richard Luther, from whom it passed to his son Anthony, and his descendants.

Chapel. The little church, or chapel, near Cames Hall, of timber and mortar, was sometime ago to be seen converted into a pigeon-house.

Church. The church of White Roding, dedicated to St. Martin, is a handsome structure, and forms a conspicuous object at a great distance: a large square tower, embattled, with a tall spire, leaded, contains five bells.* The parsonage is a good convenient building, and there are between fifty and sixty acres of glebe lands.

This parish, with the hamlet of Morell Roding, in 1821, contained four hundred and thirty-nine, and, in 1831, four hundred and seventy-nine inhabitants.

LEADEN RODING.

Leaden Roding. Leaden Roding is probably conjectured to have received its name from the circumstance of the church being the first that was covered with lead. It is a small parish, surrounded by High Easter, and the Rodings named Margarets, White and Eythorp; distant from Dunmow eight, and from London twenty-six miles.

* Inscription: "In a vault beneath this marble are deposited the remains of the rev. John Maryon, A. M. rector of this church, who was born at White Roding the 18th day of April, 1602, and departed this life the 17th day of November, 1760, in the 69th year of his age. Of whom it may with great truth be affirmed, that his whole life and conduct were a continual recommendation of the doctrines he taught. The innocence and simplicity of his manners, his constant patronage and protection of the poor, and his unfeigned piety, rendered him an example well worthy of imitation. He was eminent in the practice of all the social virtues; and his behaviour as a gentleman, a magistrate, and a minister of the gospel, made him justly esteemed. Notwithstanding he was blessed with a very considerable temporal estate, and might have attained to the highest ecclesiastical dignities, no inducement could prevail on him to change the place of his residence, or trust the charge committed to him to the care of another; for he continued here nearly forty years, in a diligent and faithful discharge of every pastoral duty: that the many virtues of so worthy a relation and so sincere a friend may be transmitted to posterity, John Jones, esq. and Margaretta Maria, his wife, have caused this monument to be erected to his memory. In the same vault lie also the bodies of Jane, the wife of the above-mentioned John Maryon, and of Walter and John, their sons, who both died in their youth. Also, the bodies of the rev. Joseph Maryon, sometime rector of this church, and Margaret his wife, the parents of the said John Maryon."

This parish, in the reign of Edward the confessor, was in the occupation of a free-woman, and was part of the thirteen knights' fees belonging to earl Warren in 1210. There is only one manor, and the mansion is near the church, on the north-east.

CHAP.
IX.

In 1314, this manor was granted by John, earl Warren, to Edward Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, under whom it was holden by sir Hugh Blount, at the time of his decease in 1361. John Doreward, in 1392, held it under Thomas, duke of Gloucester, whose descendants retained possession till, by female heirship, it passed to the family of Waldegrave, and was in possession of William Waldegrave, esq. in 1538, continuing in possession of his descendants till it was conveyed from Thomas, son of Thomas Waldegrave, esq. to Hugh Everard, esq. who died in 1637, and left the estate to his son, sir Richard Everard, bart. from whom it was afterwards conveyed to Timothy Brand, esq. of the Hide, in Ingatestone, who left it to his son Thomas. The rev. Thomas Brand, ancestor of this family, was rector, and died here in 1658: he had two sons, Thomas and John; the former of whom gave an annuity of five pounds for teaching children to read.

Manor

The church is small, of one pace with the chancel, and both of equal breadth; a wooden frame, with a spire, contains three bells.*

Church.

This rectory was given to the priory of Castle Acre, in Surrey, by William de Warren, the founder of that house in 1085.

In 1821, this parish contained one hundred and fifty-seven, and, in 1831, one hundred and forty-seven inhabitants.

MARGARET RODING.

This parish extends southward from Leaden Roding, and is bounded on the east by Good Easter: its circumference is estimated to be six miles; distant from Dunmow seven, and from London twenty-seven miles.

Margaret
Roding.

Ansgar and a freeman held it in the time of Edward the confessor; and, at the time of the survey, it belonged to Geoffrey de Magnaville and William de Warren, their under-tenants being Rainalm and Martel. There are two manors.

The manor-house of Roding Margaret is at the east-end of the church; it is called Olives, and Garnets, and vulgarly Garnish Hall. Henry Garnett held this manor under the De Veres, earls of Oxford, from 1329 to 1332; and it is stated in the feodary of that illustrious house, that in 1268, Robert de Rootinge held under them these two fees, of the fee of the bishop of Ely,† as did also John de la Lee in 1350; and John de la Lee and Robert Dersham in 1360 and 1371.

Roding
Margaret
Hall.

* Mr. Symonds found the following remarkable escutcheon in the east window of the chancel: Redemptoris nostri arma. Or, a cross, gules, at the top a cock, at the bottom three nails, a spear and reed in saltire, argent, a sponge.—*Collect.* fol. 489.*

† It is hence supposed to be part of what Leofwin gave to the bishop of Ely.

BOOK II.

In 1360, William de Bohun, earl of Northampton, and William Olive, had this estate, holden by John de Bampton in 1371; and the reversion of this manor, in which John de Boteler is said to have had a life-estate, was in Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex in 1372; as was also the manor of Reding Margaret, which Thomas Symond had unjustly taken. This estate appears to have been retained longest in the Leigh family; it was in possession of Thomas Leigh in 1390 and 1400; of John in 1424; Robert in 1437; Roger in 1442. Of Thomas Leigh, esq. in 1479, who died in 1509, as did Henry his son in 1495: Giles, son of Henry, became the heir of his grandfather Thomas; and, at the time of his decease in 1538, left Margaret and Agnes, his daughters, co-heiresses; married to the two brothers, John and Christopher Alleyn, who had each his portion of this estate; Christopher and his wife Agnes both died on the same day, the 1st of February, 1554, leaving Giles their son and heir. John, son of John Alleyn, died in 1558, possessed of this manor of Garpes and Olives; succeeded by Giles, who died in 1608, holding the estate of sir Francis Huberd, as of his manor of Stansted Montfitchet. Samuel, son of Giles, succeeded, who died in 1614; and Isaac, his brother, succeeding him, had for his successor Giles Alleyn, of Haseley, esq. who sold this estate to John Godebold, esq. of Teding Hall.

Marks.

The mansion of Marks, or Marcas-fee, is a brick building, half a mile distant from the church northward. This manor is supposed to have been a chapelry, not dependant on the church of this parish, but of Standon Marci.* From the name of this manor it is supposed to have some time belonged to the Merk family. There was formerly a chapel here, but it has been entirely destroyed: institutions to it are recorded in the London Registry.

In 1403, king Henry the fourth, and Walter Skirlaw, bishop of Durham, settled this manor, with appertenances, on University College, Oxford. The king's name appears in connexion with the bishop, yet the latter was the sole benefactor: he purchased Marks Hall, and had it conveyed from the king to the college, to avoid the expense and trouble of the inquisition required in cases of mortmain, and that it might be holden of the king.

Church.

The church and chancel are of one pace, both tiled; and a wooden turret, with a spire, contains four bells. The entrance on the west end is under an arch, with indented Saxon ornaments, supported by wreathed pillars. This church is dedicated to St. Margaret. Tithes in this parish, belonging to the abbey and convent of St. Alban's, were compounded for, by a pension of forty-six marks and eightpence, payable, according to Mr. Salmon, out of the manor of Marks.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and nine, and, in 1831, to two hundred and thirty-three.

* See Smith's Annals of University College, published in 1728. Garnet's Hall was what belonged to Geoffrey de Magnaville; and Marks was holden under William de Warren, by Marcel.

RODING BERNERS.

Roding
Berners.

This is the smallest, and the most southern of the Rodings in this hundred, and was holden under Geoffrey de Mandeville by Hugh de Berners, at the survey, having, in the time of the Confessor, been in possession of Uluric. This village is distant from Ongar six, and from London twenty-seven miles. There is only one manor.

Berners Hall is near the church southward. The estate was in possession of Ralph Berners, who died in 1297, and was holden by sir John de Berners in 1379; his son, sir James Berners, was imprisoned and beheaded, in 1388, for the alleged crime of having given evil advice to king Richard the second; and this, with his other estates, passing to the crown, was purchased by Thomas, archbishop of York, and other feoffees, for the use of Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, who, at the time of his death, held it of Joan, countess of Hereford, as of the honour of Mandeville. It was purchased of his executors by Richard Torrel, of Little Thurrock, whose son Thomas held it at the time of his death in 1442, and it was in possession of his son John in 1444, when he had to sustain a suit at law, instituted against him, on account of this estate, by sir John Bouchier, lord Berners, and Margery his wife, daughter and sole heiress of Richard, son of the said sir James Berners: but in 1452, a final agreement was made between the parties, by which John Bouchier, with Margery his wife, gave up all right and claim to this estate, on receiving fifty marks of silver. It is not known how long the Torrel family retained the estate after this event, but, in 1569, Philip Mordaunt died in possession of it, and was succeeded by his son John, who, in 1574, was followed by James, his younger brother, who dying a few months after, was succeeded by his brother, Robert Mordaunt, esq. of Little Massingham, in Norfolk, who died in 1604, and left this and other large estates to Lestrangle Mordaunt, esq. the son of his brother Henry; who sold it to sir Arthur and sir Edward Capel; after whom, the next possessor was Henry Capel, esq. succeeded by James Thwayts, whose son Josias was his heir. It afterwards passed to George Barker, surgeon, and others; and to Thomas Berney Bramston, esq. in whose family it has remained to the present time.

Berners
Hall.

The church is small, with a wooden turret containing one bell. It was given to the monastery of St. Leonard, of Bow, in Middlesex; and the prioress and convent appropriating the tithes to themselves, hired a curate for a small stipend, and it has since remained a donative or curacy in the gift of the patron. This improper rector, in 1540, was granted, by Henry the eighth, to sir Ralph Sadler, and has since belonged to numerous proprietors.

Church.

Juliana Berners, daughter of sir James Berners, of this parish, has been celebrated by various authors as very learned; and, undoubtedly, she had the best education that could be obtained in that age, as she was appointed prioress of Sopewell nunnery, near

Juliana
Berners.

BOOK II.

St. Alban's, sometime before the year 1460. This lady was exceedingly beautiful, and fond of masculine exercises, particularly hunting and hawking. On these subjects, and on heraldry, she wrote treatises which were so popular, that they were amongst the first printed books in the English language, in the infancy of the art. Her death is not recorded. Her works are, "The Treatyses perteynyng to Hawkyng, Huntynge, and Fishynge with an angle;" and also a "ryght noble treatyse of the lygnage of cot armours, endynge with a treatise, which specyfyeth of blazing of armys, Lond. 1496, fol." The first edition of her treatise on hawking was printed at St. Alban's, in 1481. The book on armoury has, near its commencement, the following curious piece of sacred heraldry: "of the offspring of the gentilman Jafeth," (she certainly meant Shem) "came Habraham, Moyses, Aron, and the profettys; and also the kyn of the right lyne of Mary, of whom that gentilman Jhesus was borne, very God and man; after his manhode kynge of the land of Jude and of Jues, gentilman by his modre Mary, prince of cote armure, &c.*"

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to ninety-three, and, in 1831, to one hundred.

SHELLOW BOWELLS.

Shellow
Bowells.

This small parish is on the south-eastern extremity of the hundred, on the north bounded by Roding Berners, and southward by Willingale Dou. The name in records is written Shelewe, Schelewe, Schelowe, Scelga, Selges, Schelve. If, as is believed, what appears in Domesday-book under Scelga, refers to this parish, it was at that time much larger than at present, containing three large manors, holden by Eudo Dapifer and Geoffrey de Mandeville, and had, in the Confessor's reign, belonged to Harol Ulric, his under-tenant, a freeman, and others. At that time part of it extended to the Rodings, and much of it is supposed to have been annexed to the contiguous manor of Torrel's Hall, in Willingale Dou. There is only one manor, and the house is near the church westward; its earliest possessors were of a family named De Bowel, Boel, or Bowles, from whom it has taken its distinguishing appellation. Sir John Sutton succeeded, who gave it, in 1301, to Ralph Jocelyn, of Sawbridgeworth, who had married one of his daughters; Geoffrey Jocelyn, his son, in 1338, made a grant of it to Robert le Marshall, and Margery his wife, of North Weald, during their lives; but it soon after passed to the Torrel family, originally seated at

Manor-
house.

* A not unfavourable specimen of this lady's poetry is given from the "booke of St. Alban's," by Ritson, in his Ancient Songs. Her reasons for publishing these tracts collectively is thus given at the beginning of that which treats on angling: "and for by cause that this present treatyse sholde not come to the hondys of eche ydle persone whyche wolde desire it, yf it were enprynted allone by itself and put in a lytyll plaunflet; therefore I have compylde in a greter volume of diverse bokys concernyng to gentyll and noble men, to the entent that the forsayd ydle persons whyche sholde have but lytyll mesure in the sayd dysporte of fysshynge, sholde not by this meane utterlye destroy it."

Torrel's Hall, in Little Thurrock. Richard Torrel, in 1404, died in possession of this estate; Thomas was his son, whose descendants retained this possession till it again reverted to the Jocelyn family, of whom John Jocelyn, esq. died in possession in 1525. From this period the accounts are not regular; but the names of Wiseman, Foster, Auge, and March occur; and Thomas March, or Marsh, esq. sold it to Thomas Bramston, esq. of Screens, ancestor of the present possessor.

CHAP.
IX.

The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, which had become ruinous, was re-edified in 1752 by a brief, and the assistance of the neighbouring gentry; particularly T. Bramston, esq.: it is a handsome small building of brick.

Church.

In 1821, the inhabitants of this parish amounted to one hundred and fourteen, and, in 1831, to one hundred and forty-three.

WILLINGALE, OR WILLINGHALL.

The whole of the southern extremity of this hundred is occupied by two parishes, named Willingale Dou, and Willingale Spain. Before the Conquest, these lands were holden by Siward, and six freemen; and, at the time of the survey, formed only one parish, in possession of Suene of Essex, and his under tenant Garner, by Ralph Peverel, and his under tenant Ravenot; and by Adam, son of Durand de Malis Operibus. The name in records is Willingehale, Wylinghale, Willenham, Wigenhale, in Domesday Willengehala, and usually Willingale. The lands of these parishes extend into the agricultural district of various loams: they are superior to the neighbouring parishes of the Rodings; the inhabitants are also more numerous, and the situation is remarkably pleasant and healthy. The two churches are in one churchyard, an unusual occurrence: yet this is the case at St. Edmund's-bury, at Sopham, in Cambridgeshire, and at Trimmell, in Norfolk. The distance from Dunmow is twelve, and from London twenty-seven miles.

Willing-
ale.

WILLINGALE DOU, OR DOE.

This is the largest of these parishes, and contains two manors.

The manor-house named **Warden's Hall**, as is supposed from a corrupt pronunciation of the family name of Wanton, is a large and handsome edifice of brick, about half a mile southward from the church. The estate belonged to William de Wanton, who died in 1347. It is supposed to have previously been in possession of William de Ou, in the reign of king Stephen; but the accounts are obscure and uncertain. William, son of William de Wanton, died in 1393, holding this manor, for the first time named Willingale Dou, of sir Robert Marney, as of his manor of South Okendon. Joan his sister, and Anne his niece, were his co-heiresses. Sir Thomas

Willing-
ale Dou.
Warden's
Hall.

BOOK II. Torrel is believed to have had this manor, because he presented to the living, from 1445, nearly to the end of that century; but there is no further evidence, and it is not known when it passed from this family to those of Jocelyn and Wiseman; yet it is known to have descended through the families of Beadle, Samford, or Sampford, to Wiseman, and, by marriage, was conveyed to the family of Fytche; in 1587, Thomas Fytche, and Agnes his wife, sold it to Nicholas Brocket, of Sawbridgeworth, and Joanna his wife, with an entail to their sons. In 1634, this estate was conveyed by John, son of Nicholas Brocket, to Robert Cole, one of the "esquires of the king's body," to Charles the first. He died in 1652; by his wife Mary, daughter of Geoffrey Nightingale, esq. of Newport Pond, he had Edmund, and three other sons, and three daughters, of whom Elizabeth was married, to Edmund Lambert, esq. of Boyton, in Wiltshire; whose sister Deborah became the wife of Edmund Cole, brother of the said Elizabeth. The offspring of this marriage was Robert and Deborah, twins, besides three elder daughters, Anne, Hester, and Mary, who died unmarried. Deborah was married to Thomas Salter, esq. of London; and Robert succeeding his father, on his decease in 1662, married Anne Beverley. He died in 1733, aged eighty-one years, his wife having died in 1732, seventy-five years of age. Having no children, he bequeathed this estate to the son of his twin-sister Deborah, sir John Salter, knt. alderman of London, sheriff in 1735, and, in 1740, lord mayor. He rebuilt Warden Hall, greatly improved the roads in the neighbourhood, and repaired and ornamented the churches, in each of which he erected spacious galleries. He married Anne, daughter of Humphrey Brooke, M.D. and dying in 1744, left his estate to his widow for life; and the reversion to his only daughter Selina, married to William Milles, esq. whose heir was his son of the same name.

Torrel's
Hall.

Torrel's Hall manor is supposed to have been taken from the capital manor, but of this there is no decisive evidence: the house is nearly a mile northward from the church. Its most ancient owners, since the survey, were of the family of Torrel, succeeded by that of Jocelyn, one of whom sold it to Richard Wiseman, esq. whose posterity enjoyed it for several generations, till it was purchased, in 1688, by John Brocket, esq. of the Middle Temple, whose son John, in 1718, sold it to Charles Blount, merchant, of London, after whose death his widow held it in jointure, and William, their son, dying in 1752, the estate was purchased by John Rooke, esq.

Asteldens.

An estate called Asteldens, supposed a corruption of Astelins, has been usually conveyed with the manor of Torrels; the mansion is in Roding Berners.

This parish has three distinct constables; one for the township, one for Torrel's Hall hamlet, and one for the hamlet of Bird's Green, part of which is in Roding Beauchamp.

Church.

The church-yard of the two Willingales is on ground which commands an extensive prospect over all the Rodings. The church of Willingale Dou is dedicated to

St. Christopher, and has a nave and chancel, with a square embattled tower, containing four bells.*

CHAP.
IX.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to four hundred and thirty-four, and, in 1881, to four hundred and sixty-six.

* Inscriptions: "Here lyeth buried Anne Sackfild, widdowe, daughter of Humphrey Torrel, of Torrel's Hall, in the county of Essex, esquire, late wife of John Sackfild, of Buckhurst, in the county of Sussex, esquier, which Anne departed this world the 13th of April, 1582, in the yere of her age four score."

Inscrip-
tions.

"Here lyeth the body of that most excellent lady Winifred Wiseman, wife to Richard Wiseman, of Torrel's Hall, esq. and daughter to sir John Barrington, of Hatfield Broad oak, in the county of Essex, knt. and bart. Ob. 7 Mail, 1684."

"Here lyeth the body of sir Richard Wiseman, of Torrel's Hall, knt. who died 30th June, 1654. And the body of dame Lucy Wiseman, his second wife, and daughter of sir Thomas Griffin, of Braybrooke, in the county of Northampton, knt. who died 29th June, 1660."

"Near this place lies buried Robert Cole, patron of this church, and esquire of the body to king Charles I. who died Jan. 13, 1652; and Mary his wife, daughter of Jeffrey Nightingale, of Newport-pond, in Essex, esq." There are also memorials of many of their children. Also of several of the family of Salter, of Warden's Hall: and the following on Mrs. Dorothee Brewster, wife of Thomas Brewster, esq. and daughter of sir Thomas Jocelyn, knt.

"Beholde heere youth and beauty lyinge,
Nurst by Nature's hande and fed;
And then timely laid to bed;
From wayful griefs and woeful cryinge,
Whose life is but a vital dyinge.
Yet seeke her not whose name I keepe,
In the grave; for she's ascended;
Earth with earth alone is blended;

And angels singe though wee do weepe;
She wakes in heaven though heere she sleepe:
Vanish thy blood, thy life shall springe,
From thy virtues ever deathlesse;
Fame hath breath, though thou be breathlesse.
My pen thus impes thy praises winge,
Which stones shall speak and time shall singe.
Ob. 27, Junii 1613, De voto Christopherei Brooke."

"Robertus Wiseman, de Torrels in com. Essex, eques aurat. Richardi Wiseman armig. primogenitus filius, et hares, vir generosissimus corporis et animi dotibus ornatus, pius, candidus, quadratus, litis expertus sibi et suis constans, philodolph. Philomus. literat. et literat. patron opt. vicinis amicabile, sociabilis, hospitalis egenis et beneficis, omnibus æquus. Summum existimationem et benevolentiam, ob facetum ingenium felicem memoriam suavam et innocuam conversationem consecutus cum corporis castitatem quinque supra sexaginta annorum cœlibatu comprobasset, et valetudine integerrima vixisset. Animam sponso suo Jesu Christo pie et placide reddidit atq.; hoc dormitorio quod ipse vivens se mortuum designavit, in spe resurrectionis ad gloriam requiescit desiderium sui omnibus bonis relinquens. Ob. 11, die Maii, 1641." Translation: "Sir Robert Wiseman, of Torrels, in the county of Essex, first-born son and heir of Richard Wiseman, esq. a man of a very good family, well accomplished, both body and mind, pious, sincere, just, peaceable, steady to himself and friends, a lover of his brethren and of the muses; an excellent patron of learning and learned men, friendly, sociable and hospitable to his neighbours, hospitable and kind to strangers, just to all, having acquired the highest esteem and good-will for his cheerful disposition, happy memory, pleasant and innocent conversation—having shewn his preference for a life of chastity by his cœlacy of sixty-five years, and having lived in a state of perfect health, piously and calmly resigned his soul to Jesus Christ his spouse, rests in this tomb (which, when living, he himself had provided), in hope of a resurrection to glory. His death is lamented by all good men. He died on the 11th day of May, 1641, aged 65."

There are also inscriptions to the memory of sir John Salter, knt. alderman and lord mayor of London, who died in 1744, aged 60. Of Mrs. Dorothy Jocelyn, wife of Thomas Jocelyn, esq. who died May 17, 1602. Of Mrs. Anne Cole, wife of Richard Cole, esq. of Warden's Hall, who died Nov. 28, 1732, aged 75 years.

BOOK II.

WILLINGALE SPAIN.

Willing-
ale Spain.

Spain's Hall here, in Finchingfield, and in Great Yeldham, having anciently belonged to Hervey de Spain, have retained his name as their distinguishing appellation.

Spain's
Hall.

The chief manor of this parish has the mansion at a short distance from the church, south-eastward. It belonged to Edeva in the time of Edward the confessor, and, at the time of the survey, was holden by Hervey de Ispania, as the under-tenant of Alan Fergent, by the name of Ulingehala, and was one of the three knights' fees which this Alan gave to Alberic de Vere, by the title of William de Ispania; and which was consequently afterwards holden of the earls of Oxford.

In 1285, William de Monchensy died possessed of this manor, which he held of the earl of Oxford; William, his son, was his heir. The estate afterwards passed through the families of Grey, Spice, Fortescue, Bradbury, Leveson, to sir Robert Wiseman, of Torrel's Hall, whose brother Richard was his successor; and his son, sir Richard Wiseman, marrying Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of John Towse, had Richard, on whom he settled this estate. He married Winifred, daughter of sir John Barrington, of Hatfield Broadoak, but left no issue: on his being killed in 1684, at the siege of Buda, where he went a volunteer with John Cutts, esq. afterwards lord Cutts, his sister and heiress sold this estate to John Brocket, esq. from whom it passed to William Brocket, esq. and his heirs.

Mynchens

Mynchens is a manor here, that formerly belonged to the monastery of Clerkenwell; but by whom given is not known: it had previously belonged to the family of Scroop, of Masham. Stephen le Scroop died possessed of it in 1405, whose successor was his son Henry, the father of Thomas. It was retained by the monastery till its dissolution, and was given, by Henry the eighth, to sir Richard lord Rich, in 1539, who, in 1562, sold it to John Waylett, who died possessed of it in 1567. In 1578, it belonged to Edward Tomlinson and Anthony Page: afterwards successively passing to the families of Nicholas, Shaw of Colchester, to John Hammond of Walthamstow, and to Mr. Lynn of Spitalfields.

Church.

The church is a small edifice, dedicated to St. Andrew and All Saints, and has been formerly named Willingale All Saints: it is in good repair, and there is an elegant altar-piece, the gift of William Brocket, esq. A small wooden belfry contains two bells. William de Hispania, or Spain, gave this church to the priory of St. Lawrence, at Blackmore, for the health of the souls of his father and mother, of himself and his wife, &c. Fulk Basset afterwards ordained a vicarage, and divided the income of the living between the vicar and the convent, the nomination being in the bishop, and the presentation in the priory. The vicar's income, amounting only to forty marks a year, being found insufficient, bishop Braybrooke, in 1398, annulled the vicarage, and

ordained the whole of the income to go to a rector, with the reservation of a pension of forty shillings a year to the convent, to pray for the souls of William de Spain and his relations. At the dissolution, the right of presentation passed to the crown, and the nomination remained in the bishop of London.

In 1821, this parish contained two hundred and three, and, in 1831, two hundred and thirty-nine inhabitants.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN DUNMOW HUNDRED.

R. Rectory.

V. Vicarage.

C. Curacy.

D. Donative.

† Discharged from payment of First Fruits.

C. V. Clear Value.

Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Barnston, R.	Middlesex.	William Toke	1807	£13 0 0	J. Toke, Esq.
Broxted, V.		Richard P. Wish ...	1823	† 7 0 0	R. De Beauvoir.
Canfield, Great, V.		John P. Gurney....	1823	† 13 0 0	J. M. Wilson, Esq.
Canfield, Little, R.		Thomas Toke	1813	12 0 7½	Christ's Col. Camb.
Chickney, R.		S. Aldrich	1799	10 0 0	H. Cranmer, Esq.
Dunmow, Great, V.		J. Smith	1804	18 13 4	Bishop of London.
Dunmow, Little, C.		William Toke	1824	C.V. 20 0 0	N. R. Toke, Esq.
Easter, Good, V.		Geo. Leepiningwell.	1816	† 8 0 0	D. and C. St. Paul's.
Easter, High, V.		Geo. Leepiningwell.	1816	14 14 7	D. and C. St. Paul's.
Easton, Great, R. ..		Paul Saumarez	1827	18 13 4	{ R. Saumarez this turn, Ld. V. Maynard
Easton, Little, R. ...		J. P. H. Chesshyre .	1815	10 0 0	Lord V. Maynard.
Lindsell, V.		Richard Pain	1801	† 8 0 0	Earl of Guilford.
Mashbury, R.		R. Chignal, St. Jas.	1780	9 14 7	W. Chignal, St. Jas.
Pleshy, D.		T. Slack	1811	C.V. 9 10 0	W. Tufnall, Esq.
Roding Aythrop, R.		John Oldham.....	1791	12 0 0	Rev. J. Oldham.
Roding Berners, C.		F. G. Fortescue ....	....	C.V. 12 0 0	T. G. Bramston, Esq.
Roding High, R.		Charles Powlett....	1817	20 0 0	Lord Roden.
Roding Leaden, R.		J. C. Hare.....	1837	12 13 4	Lord Chancellor.
Roding Margaret, R.		St. John Harding ..	1818	10 12 6	Mrs. Harding.
Roding White, R. ...		Henry Budd.....	1808	26 0 0	Rev. H. Budd.
Shellow Bowels, R.		Rector of Willingdoc	1806	† 7 13 4	W. Willingdoe, R.
Thaxted, V.		Thomas Gee.....	1806	24 0 0	L. V. Maynard
Tiltey, D.		Morgan Jones.....	....	C.V. 30 0 0	L. V. Maynard
Willingale Doe, R. ...		John Deedes	1806	16 0 0	T. B. Bramston, Esq.
Willingale Spain, R.		J. B. Seale, D.D.	1804	7 13 4	Bishop of London.

CHAPTER X.

HALF HUNDRED OF HARLOW.

Harlow
half
hundred.

ON the east this half hundred is bounded by the hundreds of Ongar and Dunmow, and extends to Uttlesford northward: the river Stort forms its western boundary, and separates it from Hertfordshire, except at Hide Hall, and some lands near Hockerill, on the eastern side of that river; and, southward, this district extends to the half hundred of Waltham. From north to south, it is twelve, and from east to west, six miles. In 1372, Humphrey de Bohun held this half hundred of the king; as did also Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham, in 1458: on the attainder of Edward, the succeeding duke, it returned to the crown, and was afterwards granted to the Rich family; Richard lord Rich had possession of it at the time of his decease, in 1566, and descending to his successors, earls of Warwick, the right honourable Daniel earl of Nottingham, who married one of the co-heiresses of that noble family, enjoyed it by the same title.

This half hundred is included in the extensive agricultural district of "various loams," and its soil is of different kinds, but generally, with good husbandry, highly productive; and much of it being appropriated to the rearing and feeding of cattle, presents some of the best meadow and pasture lands in the county. It contains the following eleven parishes: Harlow, Latton, Netteswell, Roydon, Parndon (Great), Parndon (Little), Matching, Sheering, Hatfield-Regis, or Broadoak, Hallingbury (Great), Hallingbury (Little).

HARLOW.

Harlow.

This town, the most considerable in the hundred which has been named from it, is agreeably situated in a pleasant and healthy part of the country, on the high road from London to Newmarket. It consists of one street of considerable extent, with numerous shops, and many good houses. There are two places of worship belonging to dissenters; one in Harlow Proper, the other in Potter's-street, on the London road. Formerly this was a place of more considerable importance than at present, and had an extensive woollen manufacture, and a market on Saturdays; but the trade failed, and the market was discontinued; the market has lately, however, been restored, to the great convenience of the inhabitants: it is now held on Wednesdays.

The fair, on the ninth of September, which is kept on Harlow Bush Common, is one of much celebrity, and numerous and respectably attended, not only by the inhabitants of the immediate neighbourhood, but by persons residing at a distance.

In the central part of this common is "Bush Fair House," where the Essex Archery Society hold their annual meetings. There is an old-established fair on the twenty-eighth of November, which takes place in the village of Harlow, only important as a mart for the sale and purchase of cattle. The fair formerly held here on Whit-Monday, has been discontinued.

CHXF
X.Bush Fair
House.

The petty sessions for the division are held here on Mondays.

The lands of this parish, in Edward the Confessor's reign, belonged to the abbey of St. Edmundsbury, to five freemen, and to Godwin, another freeman. At the survey, the abbey had retained its portion of these estates, and what remained had been given to Ranulph, brother of Ilger, and to Eustace earl of Boulogne. They are watered by the river Stort, which is navigable to Stortford. In circumference this parish is computed to be eighteen miles. Distant from Ongar seven, and from London, twenty-three miles. It contains six manors.

The manor-house of Harlowbury is about half a mile north-north-east of the church, and supposed to have been one of the abbot's resting-places, on his way to parliament. The large chapel near the house, being too close to the church to have been erected for the tenant of the estate, seems to confirm this supposition. Thurston, son of Wina, gave this estate to the abbey in the time of the Confessor; and it retained possession till the dissolution of religious houses; after which it was granted by Henry the eighth, in 1544, to Katharine Addington, a knight's widow, and Thomas Addington, esq., on whose death, in 1554, without offspring, his cousin Ralph, a lunatic, was his heir, succeeded on his decease, in 1564, by John Addington, son of Christopher, brother of William, the said Ralph's father: who, dying in 1587, was succeeded by his son William, who died in 1591, and in defect of issue, the estate passed to his brother, Thomas Addington, who, in 1617, sold it to Francis lord Guilford.* This estate, with the fine old mansion, is in the possession of W. Barnard, esq. The

Harlow-
bury..

* To the unwearied perseverance of John Gladwin, the elder, in many lawsuits (which finally terminated in his favour) with a former lord of this manor, the copyholders are indebted for the advantage of a fine certain of two shillings only per acre, on all admissions to copyhold lands. A brass plate in the parish church records the death, in 1615, of this indomitable and successful suitor, at the advanced age of ninety-five, and likewise commemorates the great achievement of his life, in the following inscription:—
"Here lyeth buried the body of John Gladwin, ye elder, who departed this lyfe ye 17 day of Aprill, Anno Domini 1615, being of ye age of 95 yeres; who, in his lyfetyne, with longe and tedious sutes in lawe with ye lord of ye mannor of Harlowe, did prove the custom for the copie holdes, to ye greate benefit of posteritie for ever."

The above plate, which exhibits a rude figure of this veteran, at full length, with clasped hands, as if in prayer, was originally consigned to the perishable casement of a wooden frame, but has recently been transferred, at the joint expense of the copyholders, to a more durable mounting, being now presented in a marble tablet: it continues to fill the place it used to occupy in the middle aisle of the church, a memorial of the prowess of this sturdy champion in behalf of copyhold rights.

The appeal to the laws of his country by John Gladwin, was not confined to the settlement of the

BOOK II. ancient chapel has been converted into a barn; but is in a good state of preservation. It has a fine semi-circular headed door, the shafts of which have capitals like those of the Gallilee, or chapel of St. Mary, at Durham; and there are some small windows, with rounded, and some with pointed, heads.

Brent
Hall.

The manor-house of Brent Hall, named also New Hall, is near the church: the wood, called Brentwood, belongs to it. It originally belonged to the lordship of Harlowbury; but whether the abbot had the demesne lands, as well as the lordship, is not certainly known. In 1355, it was holden of John de Insula de Rubio Monte, by David Fletewyke, whose son David was his successor. In 1442, it belonged to John Bugge, esq. who held it, not of the abbot, but of the king, as of his dutchy of Lancaster; Stephen, his son, succeeded; and Thomas Bugge died in 1548, holding the estate by the same tenure.

In 1694, it was purchased by Henry Lamb, citizen and goldsmith, of London;* and from him or his heirs was conveyed to Robert Chester, esq. a South-sea director, on whose forfeiture, coming to the company, it was sold, and afterwards became the property of William Batt, esq. of Nunton, near Salisbury.

Ketchin
Hall.

The manor-house of Ketchin Hall is near Potter's-street, a mile and a half southward from the church. The name of this estate has led to the supposition that it has originally formed that part of the chief manor which was appropriated to the maintenance of the abbot's kitchen and table by pope Boniface the ninth. It was not holden of the abbot, after the reign of Edward the third; and, in 1317, belonged to sir Robert de Hastings, knt., and passed to Thomas Longeville, who had possession of it at the time of his decease, in 1346; succeeded by his son John. In 1403, it was purchased by John Roundall of Robert Webb, and had become the property of John Bugge, esq. in 1442, who held it of Richard duke of York. Of this family, the successive proprietors were, Stephen, Thomas, Edward, and Anthony; who sold it, in 1605, to George Benson, esq., and, in 1644, William Benson, esq. sold it to sir Abraham Richardson, knt. whose widow held it after him, and paid ingress fine in

foregoing question. In the following extract, from proceedings in chancery in the reign of Elizabeth, we see him arrayed in legal armour, in the cause of charity and the poor:—

Plaintiffs.	Defendants.	Nature of Suit.	Premises.	County.
Edward Bugge, the elder, John Gladwin, the elder, and John Gladwin, the younger; Feoffees in trust for the parish of Harlow.	William Sompner, the elder. William Sompner, the younger. Nicholas Sibley, and Thomas Wood.	Bill for Charitable uses.	A tenement called the <i>Old Pole</i> , and lands thereto belonging, in Harlow, conveyed and settled temp. Henry VIII. by John Swerder, to feoffees in trust for the poor of the said parish.	Essex.

Proceedings in Chancery, temp. Elizabeth, B. vi. 17, 18.

* Of this gentleman it is remarkable, that in a contest with a highwayman, he was fired upon, and the ball lodged in his watch.



1663. Mr. Lamb, at the time that he bought New Hall, or Brent Hall, purchased also this estate; which afterwards belonged to Mr. Chester, and, being sold by the South-sea Company, became the property of William Batt, esq.

CHAP.
X.

Hubert's Hall is three quarters of a mile from the church southward. It was holden of Harlowbury, and supposed to have been one of the three hides, occupied by five free-men, which were added by the Conqueror to the lordship of St. Edmundsbury; but it does not appear that they were added to the abbot's demesne. The estate has been named from Robert Hubert, who, in the reign of Edward the third, granted to John Evy, vicar of Harlow, all his lands and tenements in the village of Epping. In 1501, this manor became the property of sir John Shaa, or Shaw, lord mayor of London; who, at the time of his decease, in 1502, held it under Edward duke of Buckingham, as of his hundred of Harlow. Edmund, or Edward Shaw, esq. was his son and successor, who held this estate of the abbot and convent of Bury St. Edmunds, as of their manor of Harlow. It was afterwards, by Alice, his only daughter, conveyed, in marriage, to William Poley, esq. of Boxted, in Suffolk, who died in 1587, holding this estate of William Addington, esq. as of his manor of Harlowbury. His son, sir John Addington, died in 1593, and was succeeded in this possession by William, his brother. It afterwards was conveyed to the family of Reve, descendants of John Reve, of Long Melford, in Suffolk,* who retained possession till it was sold by Wiltshire Reve, esq. to John Brown, esq. of Covent-garden; who left it to colonel John Brown; from whom it was conveyed to William Selwyn, esq.

Hubert's
Hall.

The elegant seat of Moore Hall is a modern building, agreeably situated nearly a mile north-eastward from the church, in a pleasant part of the parish: it is enclosed in a park, and surrounded by gardens and pleasure-grounds, with shady walks and beautiful shrubs: the south-eastern front of the house is handsomely ornamented in the Doric style of architecture; before it, a fine spring is made to form a sheet of water well stored with fish; and, at some distance from the house, a very pleasant, retired walk, of considerable extent, presents views highly interesting, over a well-cultivated and richly-luxuriant country, including the town of Harlow, Dorrington-house, in Sheering, formerly the seat of governor Feake, now of Mrs. Glyn; Down-hall, the seat of C. Ibbetson Selwyn, esq.; while northward are seen Sawbridgeworth, with Bishop Stortford, at the distance of seven miles, and agreeable scenery on the borders of Hertfordshire.

Moore
Hall.

The ancient record of Domesday informs us that Eustace, earl of Boulogne, and

* Walter, son of John Reve, of Long Melford, was the father of Thomas Reve, alderman of Colchester, who married Margaret, daughter of Gerard Shilbery, and by her had William and Anne. William Reve, of Mollenden Park, in Suffolk, had by his wife Rose, George, Robert (of Hornedge), Thomas, D.D., Henry, William, Francis, (of Hubert's Hall), John, Charles, Elizabeth, and Margaret. Francis Reve married Joan, daughter of Richard Jocelyn, esq. son and heir of sir Thomas Jocelyn, by whom he had Robert, father of John, father of Wiltshire, whose son, of the same name, was the last of the family who had this estate.—Arms of Reve: A chevron, vaire en point, between three roses.

BOOK II. his under-tenant, Britman, held here half a hide and half a carucate, which had belonged to a freeman in Edward the confessor's reign: but that this was the estate of Moore Hall, is, as Mr. Morant observes, far from certain. This learned author, however, as he informs us, from the *post mortem* inquisitions of the time of Edward the second, found that, under Robert lord Scales, who died in 1324, Matthew de Wodsham, and John Snow, held the manor called Le Mourhale, in Harlowe, by the service of one knight's fee. In 1458, Thomas Bugge died in possession of this estate,* which he held under Humphrey duke of Buckingham. From the Bugge family, it passed, by purchase, to the father of Benjamin Henshaw, esq. whose son, of the same name, marrying Elizabeth, sister of John Turvin, esq. of Gilston, had by her his son and heir, Benjamin Henshaw,† esq., from whose family the estate was purchased by John Perry, esq. of Blackwall, who on his death, in 1810, left it to his sons, John Perry and Philip Perry: the former died in 1824, and on the demise of the latter, in 1830, it became the property of his brother, Thomas Perry, esq. in whose possession it now remains. Roffey Hall, and several other farms, have been added to the Moore Hall estate.

Weld, or
Sewales.

The manor named Weld, Sewales, Sewels, also written in records, Walda, Waldes, Waldons, and Wells, is supposed to be named from the Saxon *peald*, a wood; and probably the addition of *se* might be a contraction from south, to denote the south wood. In the time of the Saxons, it belonged to Godwin, a freeman; and at the survey had been granted by the Conqueror to Ralph, brother of Ilger, whose under-tenant was named Richard. Succeeding owners are not recorded, till the reign of Edward the fourth, when it belonged to the Colt family. Joane, widow of Thomas Colt, re-married to sir William Parr, had possession of it at the time of her decease, in 1475; whose son John was his successor: he died in 1521, and was succeeded by sir George Colt, his son: on whose decease, in 1578, he had for his heir, his cousin, George Colt, esq. who was the father of sir Henry Colt, knt., and he, on his death, in 1616, left the estate mortgaged to Mrs. Howland, of Streatham; who having taken possession of it, it became the property of her daughter Elizabeth, duchess of Bedford; and was sold by the duke, to Thomas Holt; from whom it passed to Mr. White, of London, to various proprietors, and to — Smith, esq.

* John Bugge, esq. died in London in 1442; Stephen, his son, married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Marshall, by whom he had Thomas, who by his wife —, daughter of — Tillesley, had Edmund, who married Alice, daughter of — Colt, esq., by whom he was the father of Anthony, who married Aune, daughter of William Barrett, esq. and had Edmund, Thomas, and John. Edward, brother of Anthony, had a son named Richard, who died in 1636, and is buried in this church. His two wives were —, daughter of Robert Streignsham, gent., and Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Bowles, esq.—Arms of Bugge: Three budgets staved, within a bordure, guttée. Crest: Within a crown, a tawny Moor's head, couped, crined proper, and escarsoned.

† Arms of Henshaw: Argent, a chevron between three hens, gules.

The church, dedicated to St. Hugh, was originally built in the cathedral form, with the tower in the centre, but having been accidentally burnt down by a fire, which commenced on the 28th of April, 1708; it was re-edified, and the tower being destroyed, its place has been supplied by a cupola; and at the west end a tower of brick, with an open cupola, contains one bell. The re-building and ornamenting of this church was by the direction and interest of the rev. — Taylor, the vicar, and much of the ornamental part at his own expense. Many gentlemen of the country gave their arms on painted glass, to embellish the windows.*

Mr. Taylor also gave an organ, with a house for the organist to reside in, and another house, the rent of which he receives.

A gallery was erected by Francis lord Guilford; and a handsome railing, given by Robert Chester, esq. which incloses the font.†

* * The windows on the north side of the chancel contain the following arms:—Sir Charles Barrington, with quarterings, and six coats. The right hon. lord Guilford, with quarterings, in three parts, and eleven coats. The arms of sir Edward Turner, of Great Hallingbury; of John Comyns, esq. sergeant-at-law; of William Fytch, esq. The first south window of the chancel contains, the arms of White Kennet, D.D., dean, and afterwards bishop of Peterborough; and of Humphrey Gower, D.D. master of St. John's college, Cambridge. The other south window contains the history of Solomon: and the windows of the church contain the arms of sir John, and sir Humphrey Gore, knts.; of sir Richard Child, of Wansted, bart.; of William Lancaster, D.D. archdeacon of Middlesex; and of Philip Betts, register to the archdeacon of Colchester. There are also the arms of the Bedford family.

† This railing bears the following inscription, to be read either backwards or forwards:—

“NIYON ANOMHMA MH MONAN OYIN.” That is: “Wash your sin, not your face only.”

Inscriptions.—“Near this place lyeth the body of William Sumner, late tenant to John Reeve, the last lord abbot.”

Inscriptions.

“Here lieth interred the body of Thomas Druncaster, principal secretary to king Henry the seventh, 1490.”

“Here lyeth buried the body of Janne Bugge, late wyfe of Edward Bugge, the elder, gent., having yssue by him 8 sonnes and 2 daughters; which Janne deceased the 23d day of August, in the year of our Lord God, 1582.”

Under the effigies of the persons it commemorates: “Within this aisle lieth buried the body of Alexander Stafford, of High Holborn, in the county of Middlesex, esq. descended of the most noble and ancient family of the Staffords, who departed this life the 28th Sept. 1652; and of Julian his wife, daughter of John Stacy, of London, merchant, who died Nov. 8, 1630.”

Under the figures of Faith, Hope, and Charity: “Near this place lieth interred the body of John Wright, gent. executor of Alexander Stafford, esq. who, amongst many other charities, gave one hundred and sixty pounds to buy land for the use of the poor of this parish. He was buried June 1, 1659.”

A Latin inscription records the interment of Peter Gunning, fellow of Clare Hall, Cambridge, Margaret professor of Christ college, Oxford, and afterwards bishop of Chester and Ely. He died July, 1684, aged 71.

“John Gladwin, the elder, who died April 17, 1615, aged 95.”

Pious and charitable gifts:—In 1480, John Swerder is recorded to have given the rents and profits of a tenement, and twenty acres of land, for the repairs and ornaments of the church. And, in 1560, Thomas Cromwell gave the rents and profits of two acres of land for the same pious purpose; yet the greater part of the first, or both of these bequests, appear to have been for the poor, and became the subject of a trial at law. In 1590, John a God's-half, vicar of this parish, gave two acres of land and an orchard to the

Charities.

BOOK II.

This church was originally a rectory, appendant to the manor of Harlowbury, and in the patronage of the abbey of Bury St. Edmunds, which presented to it as a rectory till pope Boniface the ninth appropriated it to the maintenance of the abbot's table, when he was left at liberty to have the cure supplied by one of his own monks, or by such a secular priest as he should appoint. But, for the benefit of the parishioners, he condescended to have a vicarage ordained and endowed; accordingly this was done by commissioners empowered by Robert Braybrooke, bishop of London, the 23d of December, 1398. From that time, the presentation to the vicarage continued in the abbot and convent till their dissolution, when it was granted to Thomas Addington: from him it passed to lord Guilford, and has continued in the gift of that noble family to the present time.

Chantries. There were two chantries: one of which was founded at the altar of St. Petronilla, the virgin: the other, at the altar of St. Thomas, was founded by John Stanton, the first rector of this parish, and it is found entered in the London Registry; to pray for the souls of himself, his father and mother, John, (formerly abbot of St. Edmund's), and others.

Obits. John Waylet, Thomas Cramwell, and John Terling, by their respective wills, appointed obits to be kept for them in this church, and gave lands and tenements for that purpose.

Chapel. A new Protestant episcopal chapel is about to be erected at Potter's-street in this parish, distant three miles from the church.

Antiquities. The late Mr. John Barnard, junior, in a communication to the Gentleman's Magazine, has described the remains of a Roman station near Harlow, hitherto unnoticed by antiquarians. The castellum, or place of strength, appears to have been in the neighbouring parish of Latton, on an elevated field, which was formerly almost surrounded by the water of the river Stort. The works are now plainly visible, and a

poor. In 1659, John Wright gave one hundred and sixty pounds to purchase lands, the income to be for the use of the poor. Mr. Newman gave an almshouse for two dwellers, which is in the church-yard. Almshouses, given by Alexander Stafford, esq. and by Francis Reve, of Hubert's Hall, for four poor widows, are in the street, not far from the church.

In 1816, a school was established here for the education (founded on the religious principles of the established church) of the children of the laborious part of the population. The instruction given is free of all expense to the parents, and includes reading, writing, and arithmetic, to both sexes; and needlework to the girls. Beyond this limit, it does not profess to go. Since its first institution, two hundred and forty girls, and two hundred and fifty-six boys, have completed their education. And in the present year (1833), the numbers under instruction are, one hundred and fifteen girls, and one hundred and four boys. The funds for the support of this school are chiefly furnished by private contributions and annual subscriptions, aided by the proceeds of one charity sermon in the year. There is another school in Harlow conducted on the Lancasterian system.

The ancient benefactions of this parish have recently come under the investigation of the commissioners of charities; but their report has not yet been published.

few feet below the surface are the foundations of very strong walls. It seems highly probable that this was one of the forts formed by the Romans to defend the Trinobantes from the Cateuchlani; as the Stort here, and for some miles up its course, divides the counties of Essex and Herts. This conjecture is rendered plausible by the appearance of four of these stations, on the Essex side of the river, in the short space of nine miles; viz., this at Harlow, or Latton; one at Hallingbury, called *Wallbury*, distant four miles; one at Bishop's Stortford, three miles; and another at Stansted Mountfitchet, two miles farther.

Among the antiquities found here, a few years ago, was a small bronze head of *Silenus*, a large brooch, and fragments of a cup of highly polished red or Samian ware, on the outsides of which were figures of a cock and a triton. The coins have been very numerous and interesting: among the British, is a helmeted head, with *CUNOBELINA*; reverse, a hog and *TASCHOVANIT*. Another with a head on one side; on the other, a man striking upon an anvil: one with a star, between the rays of which are the letters, *VERLAMIO*; reverse, an ox. Among the Roman coins are several silver pieces of Sabina, Faustina the elder, and Constantinus, junior. One of the British coins described by Mr. Barnard, is not in Mr. Ruding's work, nor in Pegg's Essay on the Coins of Cunobeline. It was found near Epping; the metal is electrum; its weight, five dwt. ten gr.: on one side is represented a man in armour, on horseback; on the reverse, *Tasciooricon*.

The population† of this parish, in 1821, amounted to one thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight, and in 1831, to two thousand one hundred and one.‡

LATTON.

This parish extends from Harlow southward to Epping, and westward to the river Stort: in length it is about four miles, and narrow in proportion. It contains few inhabitants, the houses distant from each other, and in no instance forming any town or village. Distance from London, twenty-three miles. Latton.

Turgot and Ernulf, freemen, and another freeman, held the lands of this parish before the Conquest: and at the time of the survey, they were holden by the abbey of St. Edmund's-bury, by Eustace, earl of Boulogne, and by Peter de Valoines, whose under-tenant was Turgis. The possessions belonging to the abbey of St. Edmund's-bury were made the foundation of a priory; the portion belonging to Eustace, from

* In consequence of the connexion between Cunobeline and Tascio, those coins which bear the latter name, without the former, are usually attributed to that monarch.—*Ruding on Coinage*, vol. i. p. 200.—*Gent. Mag.* vol. cxi. part i. p. 66.

† The number of the labouring classes in this parish far exceeds the demand for labour; which, consequently, produces much distress and high poor-rates.

‡ The Editor gratefully acknowledges his obligations to T. Perry, esq. of Moor Hall, for valuable and important communications.

BOOK II. the name of his under-tenant, retains the name of Mark's Hall; and the part belonging to Peter de Valoines, was conveyed, by a female heiress, to the family of Fitzwater, and by degrees became incorporated with the other estates. There are two manors.

Latton
Hall.

The lands of the manor of Latton Hall are believed to be what belonged to the abbey of Bury St. Edmund's; understood to have been converted into a priory here, independent of the great abbey; but when and by whom founded is not known. It is supposed to have had the rents of Harlowbury till the abbot got them, jointly with this manor, appropriated to his table, after which we hear no more of the abbot here. The families of Tany, Colchester, Walleis, Sakeville, Bibesworth, Tyrell, Wery, Barley, and Coteys, have at different times been possessed of it. In 1566, Richard Westwood, and Margery his wife, conveyed this, with other estates, to James Altham, esq. and his wife Mary. He also purchased the manor of Mark, or Merk Hall, and the site of Latton priory. Of this ancient monastery no perfect account is to be found: it was for canons of the order of St. Augustine, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and founded sometime before the year 1270. It is on the south side of the church, and now used as a barn. It consists of a nave and a cross aisle; the inside, of the lighter style of Gothic architecture, with pointed arches. The materials of this edifice are flints, stones, mortar, and Roman bricks; and what appears to have been the site of the priory, is surrounded by a moat, beyond which, on the south, human bones are frequently found; from which we may conclude this to have been the ancient burial-place. East of the church, on the outside of the moat, there appears rising ground and a hollow place, like the remains of an intrenchment. The interval between the rise and the moat has been named by the inhabitants, "the monks' bowling green."

Mark
Hall.

The ancient manor-house of Mark, or Merk Hall, was near the church, and derived its name from Adelolf de Merc, the under-tenant of Eustace, earl of Boulogne; Henry de Merc died in 1267, and his son of the same name in 1275; and, in 1290, Juliana, widow of Henry de Merk, or Merc, had it for her dowry. It afterwards successively belonged to the families of Colchester, in the reign of Edward the second; of Wallei, in that of Edward the third, followed by John de Ludewyk, William de Forde, John Bishopston, from which last it was conveyed, in 1375, to William Berland and his heirs, with the fair of Latton, and other lands and tenements in the hundred of Harlow. Elizabeth, the daughter and heiress of sir William Berland, conveyed this estate to her husband, John Baud, esq. who held it at the time of his decease in 1422; as did also his son, William Baud, who died in 1426; and his heir and successor was his uncle, Thomas Baud. It afterwards belonged to sir John Shaa, who died in 1503, leaving Edmund, his son, his successor; and he let this manor for ninety-nine years, to Henry Parker, lord Morley, to whom it was afterwards sold by Thomas Shawe, or Shaa, in 1538; and, in 1562, was purchased of lord Morley by James Altham, esq. by which that family became possessed of nearly the whole of this

parish; his descendant, sir William Altham,* sold this estate to William Lushington, esq. who rebuilt the house, and sold it, with the estate, to Montague Burgoyne, esq. and on this elegant seat more than thirty thousand pounds have been expended. The spacious apartments of this very elegant mansion are handsomely fitted up, and the whole is surrounded by a pleasant park-like lawn. The whole estate, including the manors of Latton Hall, Burnt Hall, and others, with various extensive farms, amounting in all to four hundred and seventy-seven acres, was sold by auction on the 1st of June, 1819, to — Arkwright, esq. for one hundred thousand guineas, independently of the timber, which was valued at about ten thousand pounds. The noted Harlow Bush fair is annually held on Latton common, in this manor; this and Harlow Bush common being united where the line, of partition separates the two parishes.

Latton church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is near the hall; on the north side of the chancel there is a chapel, dedicated to the Holy Trinity and the Virgin Mary, built by sir Peter Ardern;† and a chantry was founded by him, and dame Katharine Church.

* Edward Altham, esq. was descended from an ancient family in Lancashire, of the town and manor of Altham; he was sheriff of London in 1531. He married —, daughter of — Hildersham, esq. James, son of Edward, married, first, a sister and heir of sir Thomas Blanck; secondly, Mary, widow of sir Andrew Judd, lord mayor of London in 1550; he died in 1583: Edward, son of sir James Altham, of Mark Hall, married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of John Barnes, esq. of Wilsden, in Middlesex; James, son of Edward Altham, esq. married Elizabeth, daughter of sir Francis Barrington, knt. and bart.; their only daughter was Joan, married to Oliver St. John, esq. Sir Edward Altham, knt. succeeded his brother James, and married Joan, daughter of sir John Leventhorp, knt. and bart.: sir James, the eldest son, created knight of the bath at the coronation of Charles the second, in 1661, married Alice, only daughter of sir John Spencer, of Olley, in Hertfordshire: Leventhorp Altham, esq. succeeded his brother, and married Joan, daughter and co-heiress of David Edwards, esq. of Oswestry, in Shropshire: James Altham, esq. son of Leventhorp, succeeding his father in 1681, married Mary, the beautiful daughter of John Tinker, esq. and had by her Peyton, James, Mary, married to Roger Altham, D.D. rector of this parish, and of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, and archdeacon of Middlesex; Jane, married to Richard Strutt, attorney-at-law, of Bishop Stortford; Elizabeth, wife of Daniel Turner, M.D. and Dorothy. John Tinker, esq. having entered into the service of the Venetian republic, acquired celebrity in several naval engagements, and, as a reward of his valour, received a golden chain, with a medal of great value, on which were the arms of Venice. He was afterwards master-attendant in the king's yard at Deptford. Peyton Altham, esq. succeeded his father in 1697, and was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge; he married Mary, daughter of — Beard, esq.; sir William Altham succeeded his father. Arms of Altham: Paly of six, ermine and azure; on a chief gules, a lion passant, regardant, or; armed and langued, gules. Crest: A demi-lion rampant, in his paws the rudder of a ship.

† Within the communion rails, under an arch in the north wall, and separated from the adjoining chapel by an iron railing, is a Gothic altar-tomb, erected, according to Morant, to the memory of sir Peter Ardern, chief baron of the exchequer in the reign of king Henry the sixth and Edward the fourth. On the cover stone are still remaining the brass effigies of the deceased and his wife, with three shields of arms: first, paly of six, on a chief three lozenges, the middle one charged with a chess rook: second shield, a bend cotised, and charged with a mullet of five points, between six lions rampant: third shield, a chevron engrailed between three chess rooks: there has been a fourth shield.

On the floor the effigies in brass, of a man in armour (at his feet a greyhound) and his lady; beneath

Inscriptions.

BOOK II.

his wife, to the chaplain of which Brian Rouclyffe, one of the barons of the exchequer, in 1476, gave a messuage in Latton. There is a confessionary chair yet remaining in this church. A square embattled tower contains four bells. Latton church was appropriated to the priory, and a vicarage ordained, which continued in the gift of the convent till its dissolution, and has since gone with the manor. Sir James Altham settled the great tithes upon this vicarage, so that it may be considered a rectory.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and seventy-eight, and, in 1831, three hundred and nineteen inhabitants.

them, three sons and one daughter: on the dexter corner of the stone at top a shield of arms—within a bordure engrailed a lion rampant, charged with a mullet: sinister corner at top another shield, with the same arms, impaling paly of six, on a chief three lozenges, the middle one charged with a chess rook.

A handsome marble monument, with a man in armour, and his lady kneeling before a desk; beneath, three sons and eight daughters; at the top, these arms: paly of six, ermine and azure, on a chief gules a lion passant guardant, or. Crest: A demi-lion rampant or, holding a rudder sable. "Here lyeth buried the body of James Altham, esq. and lord of this towne, who dyed the xxviii of February, An. Dom. 1583, and left behinde hym the lady Judd, his wife, who was sometye the wife of sir Andrew Judd, of London, knyght."

"Near this place lie the bodies of Leventhorpe Altham, fourth son of sir Edward Altham, and Jane his wife, who was daughter and co-heir to David Edwards, of Oswestry, in ye county of Salop, gent.; he had issue by her four sons, namely, Edwards, James, John, and Edward, and four daughters; Jane, Mary, Jane, and Thodocia. He dyed the 21st August, 1681, being aged 63: she departed this life, 15th Oct. 1691, being aged 56." James Altham, esq. died Dec. 28, 1697, aged 33, who left behind him Mary, his widow, with four daughters; Mary, Jane, Elizabeth, and Dorothy, and two sons, Peyton and James.

"Near this place is the body of Peyton Altham, esq. who married Mary Beard, daughter of John Beard, governor of Bengall, by whom he had nine children, and left three sons, James, Edward, and William; and four daughters, Charlotte, Elizabeth, Harriet, and Frances. He died Nov. 2, 1741, aged 45." Arms: Quarterly of eight, and an impalement: first, Altham as before described, with the crest.

"1640.—To the sacred memory of Edward Altham, esq. who married Elizabeth, the youngest daughter and co-heir of John Barne, of Willsdon, in ye county of Middlesex, esq. The said Edward deceased ye 8th day of April, 1605. The said Elizabeth deceased ye 7th of Jan. 1621; they had issue, sir James Altham, who married Elizabeth, the daughter of sir Francis Barrington, knt. and bart. by whom he had issue Joan, since married to Oliver St. John, esq. Sir James died the 15th day of July, 1610: sir Edward Altham, who married Joan, daughter of sir John Leventhorp, knt. and bart.: captain Emanuel Altham, who died at East India, An. Dom. 1635: Mary Altham, married to Ralph Hawtry, late of Riselip, in the county of Middlesex, esq. The said sir Edward Altham, and Joan his wife, lived happily together twenty-two years, and had issue James, married to Alice, daughter and heir of sir John Spencer, bart.: Edward, John, Leventhorp, Edward Emanuel; Joan, married to Thomas Smith, esq.: Elizabeth; Mary, married to William Halton, esq.: Bridgett: the said sir Edward Altham died May 29, 1632." Five shields of arms: Altham impaling Barrington, Spencer, and others.

"Underneath this place lyeth the body of Yvelton Peyton, esq. descended from the ancient baronets of Isleham; he had to wife the niece of sir John Roberts, bart.; he left four daughters; Elizabeth, Ann, Hannah, and Mary. This inscription was set up by Mary Altham, of Mark Hall, to perpetuate the memory of her worthy friend, who died March 11, 1710."

North wall of the nave. Or, a fesse engrailed between three lions' heads erased, gules. "To the memory of Mrs. Jane Nicholls, widow of Richard Nicholls, esq.; she was the daughter of Ralph Petley, esq. of Sevenoaks, in Kent, and relict of Stephen Lushington, esq. of Sittingbourne, in the same county.

NETTESWELL.

The parish of Netteswell is on the southern extremity of the hundred of Harlow, and lies south-west from Latton: in records, the name is Netheswelle, Nethleswelle, Netheswelle, Nettleswell, Netyswell, Nicheswelle. The manor-house near the church, and the parsonage are good houses; the others are small, and few in number: distance from Harlow two, and from London twenty-two miles.

Nettes-
well.

This parish is not mentioned in Domesday-book, an omission not easily accounted for; but if it had been the property of a layman, and subject to livery and wardship, this omission could scarcely have occurred. It was one of the lordships given by king Harold to his great abbey of Waltham, and confirmed to it afterwards by Henry the second and Richard the first. On the dissolution it went to the crown, and was granted, in 1543, to Richard Higham, esq. on whose decease, in 1546, his brother William was his heir; who was succeeded by his son John, in 1558, and he, in 1560, sold this estate to sir Richard Weston, one of the justices of the common pleas; succeeded, in 1572, by his son, sir Jerome, who died in 1603, leaving his son, sir Richard Weston, knt. afterwards baron of Neyland, earl of Portland, and lord treasurer. In 1634, sir William Marten, knt. had this estate, which belonged to sir Henry Marten, knt. L.L.D. in 1640. Sir William Marten was buried here in 1679, as was also his son Cuthbert in 1698. He married Anne, eldest daughter of sir William Nutt, by whom he had William Marten, esq. who married Mary, sister of sir Thomas Cross, bart. of Westminster, but had by her no issue, and, on his decease in 1717, left her this estate for life;* after her death to go to the first son of his niece, Anne Lewen, and to his male descendants, ordering expressly that whoever of them came to this possession, he should take the surname of Marten. On failure of issue, he left it to Matthew Bluck, esq. of Honsdon. This estate is in the possession of — Collins, esq.

Manor.

Netteswell Street is on the road from Latton to Parndon, and contains a number of detached houses.

Nettes-
well Street

She was buried here by her own desire, in the same grave with the rev. Stephen Lushington, one of her beloved children, whose monument she erected. She died Sept. 16, 1703, aged 84. The rev. Stephen Lushington, M.A. died 5th November, 1751, aged 42. If death ever spared the man who was admired and loved by all, he had not died."

"Near this place are the remains of Thomas Altham, LL.D. rector of Magdalen Laver, and vicar of this parish, and a justice of the peace for the county of Essex. Ob. 27th Oct. 1782, æt. 40."

On a very handsome marble monument: "To the memory of Frances Elizabeth, wife of lieutenant-colonel sir Guy Campbell, bart. and eldest daughter of Montague Burgoyne, esq. of Mark Hall, in the county of Essex, who departed this life at Montughi, near Florence, on the 11th of May, MDCCXVIII. Her remains are deposited in the family vault in Sutton church."

* Arms of Marten: Azure, three bends dexter, argent; a chief, ermine.

BOOK II. Burnt Mill is on the river Stort, and received this name from its having been destroyed by fire: it has also a second time been burned down.

Church. The church is small, and of one pace with the chancel; a wooden turret, with a spire, contains three bells. In one of the walls there is a portion of curious ornamental brick-work.* The rectory, after the suppression of the abbey, was granted, with Netteswell-bury, to — Higham, or Heigham, of Takeley.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and six, and, in 1831, three hundred and sixteen inhabitants.

ROYDON.

Roydon. This parish occupies the south-western extremity of the half hundred, and is separated from Hertfordshire by the river Stort; on the south joined to Waltham half hundred, into which Roydon hamlet extends. The park above the river is hilly, and commanding extensive prospects over green meadows, has given rise to the conjecture that the name is from the Saxon Rop, and dun, sweet hill: in records it is written Reydone, Reyndon, Ruindune. The village is on the banks of the river: distant from Epping and Waltham abbey seven, and from London twenty-two miles.

In Edward the confessor's reign this parish belonged to Inguar, and five others, all freemen; and, at the survey, was holden by Ranulf, brother of Ilger; and a berewick or hamlet which belonged to it, was holden under him by a freeman named Richard. There are four manors.

Roydon Hall.

Roydon Hall, or Temple Roydon Hall,† is eastward from the church, on the village green; this manor passing by forfeiture to the crown, was granted to Robert Fitzwalter, by king Henry the first, in 1285; and, five years afterwards, he had a charter for a market every Thursday, and a fair on the first and second of August. He held of the king, of his honour of Baynard, from whence it is believed to have descended from Ranulph to that family, and to have been forfeited by William Baynard, in the reign of Henry the first. This estate was given to the knight templars by Robert Fitzwalter, and, on the extinction of that order, in 1311, it was given to

Inscriptions.

* Inscriptions: A monument on the north wall of the chancel bears an inscription in Latin to the memory of William Marten, esq. who died Nov. 28, 1717, aged 84. There are also inscriptions on John Bannister, gent. who died in January 1607, aged 80; and Abraham Kent, A.M. formerly rector of this church, who died in 1784.

“ Here lyeth Thomas Lawrence, and Alys his wyfe, which Thomas dyed in April 1522, on whose souls Jesu have mercy.”

Charities.

Charities.—A free-school was instituted here by William Marten, esq. which is endowed with forty pounds per annum for teaching ten boys and ten girls. Thomas Lawrence, born here in 1522, gave an annuity of five shillings to the poor.

† The manor of the rectory, or Temple Roydon, has been united to the chief manor, and goes along with it. The fee-farm rent of this estate was sold by king Charles the first, in 1629.



the knight's hospitalers, who enjoyed it till the general dissolution of religious houses, and it was granted, by queen Elizabeth, to Francis lord Norreys and others. It became the property of sir Robert Cecil, afterwards earl of Salisbury, who died in 1612; and his family retained this estate till his grandson James, earl of Salisbury, sold it to sir Josiah Child, bart. from whom it descended to the right hon. John earl Tilney, and now belongs to the hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley.

The manor of Dounes, or Doune Hall, was holden of the prior of St. John of Jerusalem; and, in the time of Edward the third, seems to have belonged to the family of Wanton; passing to Robert Pakenham, one of their descendants, and afterwards to Harleston. It was holden of the prior by Ivo de Harleston, who died in 1403; John was his son, whose brothers, Henry and Robert, in 1466, conveyed the estate to sir Robert Danby and others; it was afterwards in possession of George Colt, esq. and he, on his decease in 1616, held this manor and a messuage called the New Weare, with the island, of the earl of Salisbury. It afterwards belonged to Edmund Field, esq. and to Paul Field, esq. of Stansted-bury; it is in the possession of Mr. Maw, mathematical instrument maker, London. Lady Houblon is lady of the manor.

The ruin of Nether Hall is near the confluence of the rivers Lea and Stort. It was formerly the seat of the Colt family, who were from an early period settled here.

The ancient mansion, which had been converted into a farm-house, was demolished in the year 1773; the gateway being left standing from the strength of the work, which rendered its destruction too expensive. It is of brick, and consists of two floors, with a half hexagon tower on each side of the entrance. Each floor is occupied by only one room, measuring twenty-seven feet by twenty-three and a half, and lighted by large windows; the ceiling of the upper story has fallen in: that of the first story is sustained on wainscot arches, resting in front on three blank shields, and a truss composed of a radiant rose; and at the back on four trusses, the first and third of which represent griffins; the second and fourth, a bear and ragged staff: the most western of the shields is supported by two horses; the second held by a spread eagle, supported by a lion and unicorn; and the third rests on a lioness and a bull ducally crowned. Near the chimney is a colt's head, in an ornament of the carving. This story has been wainscoted to the height of about eight feet: above the wainscot, on the plaster, are various figures in the compartments, indifferently painted, to represent the most eminent personages of sacred, profane, and fabulous history. On the summit of the gateway are some remains of two curiously twisted chimneys; and beneath the windows, above the entrance, is a machicolation, and a trefoil ornament, with shields and fleurs-de-lis. These venerable remains of antiquity are in a state of rapid decay, and have lately become much altered in appearance.

This manor was formerly holden of Waltham abbey, and is first mentioned in records in 1401, as being conveyed by Thomas, son of John Organ, of London, to

Dounes.

Nether
Hall.CHAP.
X.

BOOK II. Nicholas Collern and others: and Thomas Prudence, who previously had it of the gift of the said John Organ, in 1407, released all his right to Simon Barnwell.

In the reign of Edward the fourth, this estate had become the property and place of residence of the Colt family, and Thomas Colt, esq. was employed by that prince in some post of honour abroad. He died in 1476, and was buried in this church. The estate continued many generations in this family; the last recorded possessor being George, son of sir Henry Colt, knt. in 1635.* The family of Archer, of Coopersale, afterwards succeeded to this possession.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is in the village. It has a nave, north aisle, and chancel; and an embattled tower contains six bells.†

In 1729, this poor vicarage was augmented with two hundred pounds, the gift of the duchess dowager of Marlborough; to which, two hundred pounds of queen Anne's bounty were added.

In 1821, the population of Roydon, with the hamlet, amounted to seven hundred and ninety-six, and, in 1831, to seven hundred and seventeen.

* Thomas Colt, of Carlisle, was the father of Thomas Colt, esq. of Roydon, who, by his wife Joan, daughter of — Trusbutt, of Suffolk, had John Colt, esq. his heir, who married Joan, daughter of sir John Elrington, of Hackney, in Middlesex; and also, secondly, he married Anne, daughter of sir John Anle: on his death, in 1521, he was succeeded by his eldest son, sir George Colt, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Macwilliam, and, secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Stopham, of London. By the first he is said to have had two sons, Henry and John, and two daughters by the second; yet his sons are supposed to have died before him, for on his decease in 1578, his next heir was his cousin, George Colt, esq. who married Elizabeth, daughter of John Coningsby, esq. of North Mymmes, in Hertfordshire, and had five sons and six daughters. He died in 1615, in possession of numerous estates, and was succeeded by his son, sir Henry Colt, knt. who being improvident and thriftless, sold nearly the whole of the paternal estates, and, on his death in 1635, left only one messuage in this parish, a newly-built house in Little Parndon, where he dwelt, and Colt Hall, in Cavendish. George was his son, and heir to the remnant of the family possessions. Arms of Colt: Argent, a fesse azure, between three colts courant, sable.

Inscriptions. † Inscriptions: There were, sometime ago, inscriptions in memory of the following persons: Thomas Colt, esq. living in the reign of king Edward the fourth, and in the inscription styled "Edwardi Regis consul honorificus, prudens, discretus, fortis, tam consiliis quam armis." John, son of the above-named Thomas, who died in Oct. 1521. Margaret Colt, daughter of John Heath, esq. first married to John Ducket, merchant, of London; then to John Swift, esq.; and lastly to Henry Colt, esq.

Francis Butler, esq. late first secondary in the office of king's remembrancer in the court of exchequer, Westminster.

Charles Nanfan, gent. of Spanish Town, in the island of Jamaica, who died in Aug. 1713. Also, Mrs. Elizabeth Nanfan, wife of captain John Nanfan, late in the hon. East India Company's service. She died in Nov. 1769.

Charities. Charities and pious gifts.—An unknown benefactor left an annuity of four pounds for the repairs of the church. The rent of a house, called Prior's-house, was left to the poor, the donor unknown.

A noble, payable yearly out of an estate in Roydon hamlet, was left to the poor by Mr. Newman.

PARNDON.

The two parishes named Parndon lie eastward from Roydon, and were not divided till some time after the survey of Domesday. The name is there written Perenduna; in other records, Parenndon, Parrington, Parennden, Perindun. In the reign of the Confessor, the owners of this district were Ulf, a king's thane; Alsius Bella, a freeman; another freeman; and the nunnery of Barking: at the time of the survey, it belonged to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, and his under-tenant Junain; to Ranulph, brother of Ilger, and his under-tenant Roger.

Parndon.

GREAT PARNDON.

The largest of these two parishes is what belonged to earl Eustace, and is of inconsiderable extent. The soil is of a superior description, and in a good state of cultivation. There are three manors.

Great
Parndon.

The manor of Great Parndon, at the time of the survey, belonged to earl Eustace; and afterwards to the Whitsand family; three co-heiresses of which carried their purparties of this estate, and the advowson of the church, to their husbands; and by this means the manor was parcelled out into smaller possessions. Agnes was married to Walter Jeround; Lucia to — de London; and Elizabeth to Talyferris, of Winton.

Walter Jeround, who married Agnes Whitsand, had this estate, which has retained his name: the mansion is on the north side of the church-yard: he was succeeded, in 1307, by his son John. Talyferris de Wynton, or Winchester, died in 1332, holding a third part of the advowson of the church, and his wife's part of the manor; Richard was his son, but there is no distinct account of his succession to the estate. Richard de Nottingham presented to the living in 1325; and Richard Wynchester died in 1348, holding the third part of the manor of Great Parndon of the king, as of the honour of Boulogne, by the third part of a knight's fee, and suit from month to month at the court at Witham, and the hundred of Harlow. Joane, his widow, enjoyed the estate after him, and died in 1361, leaving two daughters co-heiresses; Meliora, wife of William Rolf, and Katharine, wife of John-at-Church; of these no further account is found, except that Robert Chirche died in 1420, holding, apparently, his own and the other portion of the estate which had come to him. His only daughter Joan, was married to Richard Maister, who had possession of the estate in 1407. In 1467, it belonged to R. Steward. In 1529, Andrew Finch and others sold the manor of Great Parndon, and the third part of the advowson of the church, to John Hales, one of the barons of the exchequer. It afterwards passed to the crown, and, in 1553, was granted by Edward the sixth to the mayor, commonalty, and citizens of London, as governors of the hospitals of Bridewell, St. Thomas, and Christ's, and it has remained in this appropriation.

Jeround

BOOK II. The manor-house of St. Katharine's is on the south side of the church; the estate belonging to it is what formed the portion of Lucia de Whitsand, and was named from her daughter Katharine de London. An unknown benefactor (supposed of the Rokesburgh family) gave it to Waltham abbey; and after the dissolution, it was granted to Richard Higham, esq. who, in 1544, sold it to Andrew Finch, on whose decease, in 1563, it passed to his son, John Finch, who sold it in 1580 to Thomas Skipton; it appears, from the records, to have belonged to Robert and Simon Adams in 1558, to Nathaniel Tracy in 1588, and in 1645 to John Weldon.

Katharine's. The manor of Passemers is named from the family of Passemers, under whom it was holden in the reign of Henry the third, by Baldwin de Whitsand. The house is a mile eastward from the church, near a brook. The estate, a part of which has been sold off, was some time ago possessed by a family named Naylor; succeeded by — Sale, of Wadesmill, in Hertfordshire; and George Brewer, esq. who conveyed it to Mrs. Pink; who sold it to Jonathan Nunn, esq., whose widow enjoyed it after him, and left it to their daughter Hannah, married to Richard Glover, esq. of London.

Passemers. The manor named Canons, belonged anciently to a monastery of Canons of the Premonstratensian order, styled the canons of Perendune, or Parndon. It was founded, or endowed, by Roger and Robert de Perendune, and Clement, son of Reginald. In 1180, these canons were removed to Bileigh abbey, near Maldon; yet they retained possession of this estate, which was confirmed to them by the charter of Richard the first. On the general dissolution of monasteries, this estate passed to the crown; and was granted in exchange by Henry the eighth to sir Thomas Darcy, gentleman of his privy chamber; who, in 1547, conveyed it to John Hanchet, and Bridget his wife: their daughter Martha married Edward Turnor, esq. In 1632, sir Edward Farmer had this manor, and resided here; and in the last century it was purchased by sir Josiah Child, bart. and descended to the right hon. John earl Tilney; and the present possessor is the right hon. W. P. T. L. Wellesley.

There was formerly a magnificent mansion, in a low situation, about a mile north from the church, to the right of the road from Harlow to Roydon; but the whole or greatest part of it has been pulled down: it is supposed to have been built with the materials of the monastery. Kingsmore House is the elegant seat of — Ridsen, esq.

Canons. The church has a nave, south aisle, and chancel; and a tower, with a small spire, contains four bells.*

Church. In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and ninety-six, and in 1831, two hundred and ninety-six inhabitants.

Charity. * Charities.—In 1588, John Celyc, Ceely, or Sealy, a native of this parish, gave one hundred pounds for the purchase of lands, or other property, the yearly income of which shall not be less than five pounds, to be for the assistance of the poorest people of this parish.—One shilling and eight-pence is yearly payable out of lands named Rum Mead, in Harlow, to be given to the poor.

Inscriptions. Inscription.—“To the memory of Rowland Rampstone, late of this parish, gentleman, who married

LITTLE PARNDON.

Little
Parndon.

This very small parish is delightfully situated near the river Stort: a freeman held it before the Conquest, and at the survey it formed one of the twelve lordships in this county, belonging to Peter de Valoines: by Alfreda, sister to Eudo Dapifer, he had his son and heir Roger, father of Peter, who married Gundred de Warren, and had by her three daughters, co-heiresses; Lora, married to Alexander de Baliol, brother to the king of Scotland: Christian, married to William de Mandeville, afterwards to Peter de Maine; and Elizabeth, married to David Comin. In right of his wife, Alexander had Benington, in Hertfordshire, to which this of Little Parndon* was afterwards added; and Alexander Baliol having sold the estate of Benington to John de Bensted, in 1284, Little Parndon went along with it: the estate, after the decease of John de Bensted, in 1342, and of his wife, Petronilla, descended to John de Bensted, son of Edmund; remainder to Edmund, son of John, and his heirs: John, son of John, died in 1376: and the next recorded possessors were of the family of Colt, of Roydon; who were succeeded by the Turnor family, in which it continued, till on the death of Charles Turnor, in 1726, and of his two daughters soon afterwards, the family became extinct. Sarah, grand-daughter of the last sir Edward Turnor, whose mother was Sarah, sir Edward Turnor's daughter, was married to Mr. Francis Gee. Edward Turnor, esq. of Shillingley park, in Sussex; son of Arthur, second son of chief baron Turnor, was heir to the family. He gave this estate to Sarah, grand-daughter of the last sir Edward Turnor; but after some dispute on the subject, there being another who claimed the estate, it was sold to Edward Parsons, esq., and is at present the property of William Smith, esq.

The church is near the river Stort, and very small: the chancel has a north aisle.† Church.

In 1821, this parish contained one hundred and three, and in 1831, ninety inhabitants.

Mary, the eldest daughter of captain Turner, of Canons; whose mother was Martha, daughter and heiress of John Hanchett, esq. He died Sept. 10, 1598."

There are memorials of several of the family of Sparke, and of Robert Milward, of North Winfield, Derbyshire, and afterwards of this town: he died Oct. 1763, aged 74; his wife Jane died May, 1764, aged 76.

* Chauncy's *Antiquities of Hertfordshire*, p. 343.

† Inscriptions.—On the floor of the chancel: "Here lyeth the body of Mrs. Sarah Turnor, ye wife of Edward Turnor, of this parish, esq. by whom he had six children, whereof four survived her, two sonnes, Edward and Arthur, and two daughters, Sarah and Anne; she was the daughter and hayre apparent of Jerard Gore, of ye citey of London, esq. She departed this life, in ye 27th year of her age, ye 19th of February, Anno Dom. 165.."—Arms: Turnor impaling, between a fesse, three cross crosslets fitché.. with a crescent.

"Here lyeth the body of Sarah Gore, wife of Gerard Gore, of the city of London, esq."

In the nave: "Here lyeth buried the body of William Houghton, who continued a faithful minister of

BOOK II.

MATCHING.

Matching. The parish of Matching, extending south-eastward to the hundred of Ongar, is bounded on the north-west by Harlow: distant from Epping six, and from London twenty-three miles.

Previous to the Conquest, Esgar, Elurid, Cild, Holefast, and another freeman, held the lands of this parish: at the time of the general survey they were in the possession of Robert Gernon, and Hugh his under-tenant, Geofrey de Magnaville, and William de Warren. This is a pleasant and healthy part of the country, the soil being of various loams, moderately productive.* There are four manors.

Matching
Hall.

The chief manor-house is Matching Hall, on the south side of the church; and the lands belonging to it are what descended from Robert Gernon to the lords of Stansted Montfichet. In 1331, Humphrey de Walden held this estate of John de Lancaster, and left Andrew, son of Roger, his brother, his heir. The noble family of Vere having acquired the lordship of Stansted, this manor remained in their possession through many generations. The Walden family held it of them in 1401, and sir Alexander Walden died in possession of it in 1408, whose cousin Alexander was his heir; succeeded by John Walden in 1419, whose sisters, Katharine, wife of John Barley, and Margaret, married to Henry Langley, were his co-heiresses; afterwards, by purchase or otherwise, the whole inheritance passed to Thomas Langley, who held it at the time of his decease in 1471, as did also his son Henry in 1488, leaving his

the word of God in this parish, thirty-eight years and five months, and departed this life, being aged 71 years and upwards, Nov. 15, Anno Dom. 1659."

North wall: "In the family vault of her son-in-law, Edward Parson, of this parish, esq. are deposited the remains of Mrs. Bridget Woodley, widow of William Woodley, esq. of the island of St. Christopher, where he is interred. She departed this life the 13th day of February, 1756, aged 74 years, eminently distinguished by every conjugal, social, and Christian virtue, and most justly meriting this last testimony of filial duty and respect, from her affectionate son John Woodley, who erected this to the best of parents, MDCCLXVI." Arms: Sable, a chevron between three owls, argent; impaling argent, a bend between three wolves' heads, couped sable, langued gules.

East wall of the chancel: "Near this place lieth the body of Ann Turnour, wife of Arthur Turnour, esq. serjeant-at-law, and daughter of John Gerny, of Gunton, in the county of Norfolk, esq., who was mother of sir Edward Turnour, knt. lord chief bardn of his majesty's court of exchequer at Westminster, in the reign of king Charles the second."

"Near this place lieth the body of Sarah Clarke, widow, who was the wife of George Clarke, of Watford, in the county of Northampton, esq., she was daughter of sir Edward Turnour, knt.: she departed this life the 30th day of October, in the year of our Lord Christ, 1722."

"Near this place lieth the body of sir Edward Turnour, knt.... who departed this life in Hilary Term, in the of the said king's reign. And also here lieth the body of dame Sarah Turnour, wife of the said sir Edward Turnour, knt. and daughter of Gerard Gore, esq. alderman of the city of London; she departed Feb. 1661, in the"

* Average annual produce per acre, wheat 26, barley 32 bushels.

widow Katharine, who died in 1487; their daughter and heiress was married to John Marshall; and had Elianor, wife of Henry, son of sir John Cutts, and Mary, wife of John, son and heir of Richard Cutts. Henry Cutts, esq. died in 1573, leaving his son, sir Henry Cutts, who held a portion of this manor at the time of his death in 1603, leaving his cousin, Richard Cutts, esq. his heir, who died in 1607. The last of this family who had this estate was sir William Cutts, great grandfather of Richard Cutts, esq. and father of John lord Cutts: it was afterwards purchased by one of the family of Masham, and passed with the manor of Otes to the right hon. Samuel lord Masham, who gave it, with Otes and Little Laver, to the hon. Samuel Masham, esq. from whom it afterwards passed to Robert Palmer, esq. of London.

Waterman's manor, also named Matching-green, had a mansion at some distance from the church northward, but it has disappeared. The origin of the name is unknown; as also of a place here called Waterman's-end. This manor belonged to Waltham abbey, but by whom given is not known. At the dissolution it was granted to Robert Clifford and William Wallbore; from whom it passed, in 1547, to Geoffrey Lukyn; and in 1550, Thomas Lukyn sold it to William Lukyn; and he, in 1554, sold it to sir William Petre, from whom it has descended with the family estates.

Water-
man's

In the reign of the Confessor, Esgar, and at the survey, Geoffrey Mandeville, had the manor of Stock Hall; the mansion to which is a mile south-eastward from the church, near Matching-green. It became successively the property of Thomas Battayl in 1372, Margaret Boys, and a second Thomas Battayle in 1453, and of Robert Brown, of Rookwood Hall, in Abbess Roding, in 1488: his son William was his heir; and in 1553, the estate was conveyed by sir Humphrey Brown to John Lyndsel and others. Thomas Aylett was in possession of this estate in 1607, whose successor was his son John. Afterwards Thomas Gittens, who married Susan, daughter and heiress of Thomas Aylëtt, sold it to Thomas Bennet, of North Weald; who settled it on his son John Bennet, and Grace, daughter of Thomas Cook, of Nether Yeldham, whom he had married; and he sold it, in 1707, to James Brain, esq. who was high sheriff of the county in 1724. He gave it to his daughter, who was married to Daniel Quare, son of Mr. Jeremiah Quare, merchant of London.

Stock
Hall.

The manor of Ovesham, vulgarly Housham Hall, is only a farm, though formerly it was so considerable as to constitute a hamlet to Matching; and had a chapel, the foundations of which may be traced near Ovesham Hall, which is half a mile west of the church. Shering brook forms the boundary of this estate, and hence the name is supposed to be from Orpe or Opep, on the bank, or above the stream, and Ham, a manor-house. It is what belonged to Holefast, in the reign of the Confessor, and to William de Warren, at the time of the survey; and by Alice, sister and heiress of John, the last earl of Warren, was conveyed, by marriage, to Edmund Fitzalan, earl of Arundel. It afterwards belonged to the family of Scot; followed by that of Alleyn;

Ovesham.

BOOK II. and returning again to the Scot family, became the property of George Scot, esq. of Chigwell.

Kingestons.

An estate, three quarters of a mile eastward from the church, has retained the name of its ancient possessors of the Kingeston family. It was holden by the heirs of Hugh de Kingeston, under John and Thomas de Vere, earls of Oxford, who died in 1358 and 1370. Richard Cramp held it in the reign of king Henry the sixth, by the service of giving, at Christmas, two little vessels, new bound with iron, containing four bottles or flasks full of new wine.

Stone Hall.
Church.

An ancient mansion, north east from the church, is named Stone Hall.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, has a nave, north and south aisles, and chancel, with a tower containing five bells.*

Harvey de Boreham, dean of St. Paul's, gave this church to the priory of Lees: and in 1274, the great tithes were appropriated to that convent, by John de Chishull, bishop of London, who also ordained and endowed a vicarage here, reserving the nomination of the vicar to himself and successors, bishops of London.

After the dissolution of monasteries, the impropriate tithes were granted to sir Richard Rich, who settled them on his charitable foundations at Felsted, leaving the right of presentation to the trustees, but the nomination to the bishop of London.

In 1821, this parish contained five hundred and ninety-nine, and in 1831, six hundred and twenty-one inhabitants.

Inscriptions.

*Inscriptions.—On the south wall of the chancel, the following is nearly obliterated: "D. O. M. Nicolao Ashtono, honesta familia nato; qui vixit annos LXXX et senos, integer cum mente et corpore prudens, candidus pius vultus semper placide severus non male mores expressit. Ab omni senium verior quam senectutis vitio singulari modo immunis. Constantiam nec in ipsa morte reliquit; singulis compositè valedicens, modestè et importunè concilians, inter merentes filiam et Nepos; non aliter quàm iter facturus ut ipse Moriens, prædicabat, ad meliorem vitam decessit Kal. Feb. 1716. Pia, placida, gravis Anima Vale." Translation: "By favour of the supreme Being, all powerful and all good, to Nicholas Ashton, (sprung from a reputable family,) who lived eighty-six years, with soundness and integrity of mind and body. His countenance (where sweetness mixed with gravity ever sate) was no ill interpreter of his manners. He was very particularly free from all the vices of old men; falsely called the vices of old age. His constancy forsook him not at his very death. Amongst his mourning daughters and grand-children, taking leave of every one without discomposure, and giving every one modest and reasonable counsel, no otherwise than if he had been to take a journey, (the comparison he himself made at the time,) he departed to a better life. Thou pious, gentle, and grave soul, farewell."

"John Ballet, gent. died, 1638, aged 65. Elizabeth Ballet, died Dec. 18, 1659. John, her eldest son, died March, 1659. John, the father, in Dec. 1673."

"Francis Cudworth Masham, esq. only son of sir Francis Masham, bart. died May 10, 1721, aged 45."

Charities.

Pious benefactions.—The income or rent of a house on Matching Green, known by the sign of the Cock, was given to the parish for beautifying the church; but is frequently distributed to the poor.

A house near the church-yard was built by — Chymney, and designed for the entertainment of poor people on their wedding-day.

SHEERING, OR SHERING.

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This parish extends westward to the river Stort, and on the south is bounded by a nameless stream flowing from Hatfield. Sheering Street, consisting of detached houses, on the road from Hatfield to Harlow, is distant from Epping eight, and from London twenty-five miles.

Sheering.

In records the name is Sceringa, Seringe, Snaringe, Cherring. Peter de Valoines had this parish in the time of William the Conqueror, its former owners having been three Saxon freemen.

The mansion-house of the manor of Sheering is a mile south-westward from the church: it belonged to Peter de Valoines, who married Albreda, sister to Eudo Dapifer, and had by her his son Roger, whose two sons were Peter and Robert. Peter dying without issue male, was succeeded by Robert, who, by his wife Hawise, left his heiress Gunnora, married to Robert Fitzwalter, to whom she conveyed this estate, which remained in the barony of Fitzwalter till the year 1432, when it passed, by the marriage of Elizabeth, daughter of Walter lord Fitzwalter, to the family of Ratcliffe, of whom Robert was created viscount Fitzwalter in 1525, and, in 1529, earl of Sussex. Earl Robert, the last heir male in the direct line, sold Sheering, with the advowson of the church, to Lionel Cranfield, earl of Middlesex, who, in 1635, sold it to Thomas Hewit,* esq. son and heir of sir William Hewit, knt. by Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Wiseman, esq.

Sheering
Hall.

In 1723, this estate was sold, by lady Filmer, to Robert Chester, esq. one of the South-sea Company directors, on whose forfeiture it was sold by the Company to Samuel Feake, esq. who erected the capital mansion of Dorrington House. It occupies a delightful situation on this estate, about a mile south-west from the church, and is the property and residence of Mrs. Glyn.

Dorrington
house.

The large estate of Sheering Hall, in the possession of Mr. P. Paviott, presents an admirable instance of good management, directed by superior judgment; the portion of arable in particular, is made to produce crops of the greatest luxuriance.

The manor-house of Cowickbury, also called Quickbury, and Cowick-barns, is

Cowick-
bury.

* He married Frances, daughter of sir John Hubbard, of Blickling, in Norfolk, by whom he had a daughter, married to sir William Beversham, knt. a master in chancery: he married, secondly, Margaret, widow of Thomas Hillersdon, esq. of Elston, in Bedfordshire, daughter of sir William Lytton, of Knebworth, in Hertfordshire, knt. and bart.: by his second lady he had five sons and eight daughters, of whom his only surviving son was sir George viscount Hewit, of Goring, in Ireland: dying without issue, in 1689, he left his estate to his four sisters; Elizabeth, married to sir Richard Anderson, bart.; Margaret, married to sir Edward Farmer, knt. of Little Parndon; Arabella, widow of sir William Wiseman, bart. of Great Canfield; and Mary, widow of sir Charles Crofts Bart, knt.; of these, the lady Arabella Wiseman was his executrix. The estate was sold, and remained sometime in possession of lady Filmer, a descendant of sir William Beversham.—See *Sir Henry Chauncy's Antiquities of Hertfordshire*, p. 176.

BOOK II. mile from the church north-westward; there is also another mansion-house, a quarter of a mile farther in the same direction, which is named Cowicks. This manor is supposed to be what in Domesday is named Cinca: in Edward the confessor's reign, it belonged to Alwin Godtun, and, at the general survey, was in possession of William de Warren, whose under-tenant was Richard.

In 1098, Richard Guett, brother to the countess of Warren, gave this manor to the monastery of Bermondsey, in Southwark, who held it as a knight's fee of the descendants of the family of Warren, of whom are particularly mentioned in records Edmund and John, earls of Kent; Joan, princess of Wales; Alice, wife of Thomas Holland, earl of Kent; Thomas, earl of Arundel; and Joanna, wife of sir John Grey. On the death of every abbot, the lord of Ovesham was to receive a hundred shillings. After the dissolution of monasteries, in 1540, this estate was granted to Thomas Jocelyn, esq. of New Hall, in High Roding, from whom it was conveyed, in 1556, to Robert Hurst, and became successively the property of Roger Hurst, of his son Thomas, who died in 1616, and of his son and heir Roger. The next recorded possessor was David Pettyt, esq. of Wansted, fifth and youngest son of George Pettyt, esq. of Ottford, in Kent, by Anne, daughter of David Polhill, esq.: he married Mary, daughter of John Cookes, esq. of Bewdley, in Worcestershire, and dying in 1745, left this estate, by will, to George lord Carpenter, who had married his only daughter: on the decease of this nobleman, in 1749, his son, James Turvin, esq. succeeded to this estate.

Church.

The church is a plain ancient building, of one pace with the chancel, and of the same width: it is dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

The rectory of Sheering continued in the gift of the owners of Sheering Hall manor, till it was sold, by lady Wiseman, to a gentleman, of whom it was afterwards purchased, with money left by archbishop Fell, to the college of Christ's church, Oxford.

Chapel-field.

A field, named "Chapel-field," on the north side of the road to Netherton, marks the site of the ancient free chapel dedicated to St. Nicholas, which was founded and endowed by Christiana de Valoines, in 1278; the endowment was for two chaplains to celebrate divine service: Thomas de Shimpling was presented as chaplain by sir Thomas Loveyn, in 1322.*

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to four hundred and thirty-nine, and, in 1831, to five hundred and forty-seven inhabitants.

HATFIELD REGIS, OR BROAD OAK.

Numerous houses irregularly placed, and generally at some distance from each other, form here a considerable village, where there was formerly a market-town of

* Benefaction: A house near the church has been given for its reparation.

some importance. It is on the north-east part of the hundred, and extends to the Canfields and the Rodings. The Saxon name *Hæðfeld*, is descriptive of its former state, of a heathy, uncultivated field: the terms *Regis* and *Broad Oak*, distinguish this place from *Hatfield Peverell*. The first of the above terms was applicable to this lordship as having formed part of the demesne lands of the Conqueror; and the extraordinary tree of very ancient appearance, named *Doodle-oak*, has by most writers been supposed to have been that from which this parish has been denominated: the soil is well adapted to the growth of forest trees.*

C H A P.
X.
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From the great rent of eighty pounds, which this parish brought to the sheriff, immediately after the Conquest, it has been considered the largest in the half hundred, and this opinion is strengthened by the appearance of the foundations of buildings, extending above half a mile on the road towards Sheering and Harlow; this place is called *Holsted-hill*, a corruption of *Old Street-hill*. The return of chantries, in the reign of Edward the sixth, makes it “a great and populous town.” There has formerly been a good market here, and there is a fair, on the fifth of August, which supplies a stock of lambs to this part of the country, chiefly from Norfolk. This lordship formed part of the royal demesnes of Edward the confessor, of Harold, and of William the conqueror. It contains five manors.

Holsted
Hill.

The paramount manor remained in the crown till the reign of Henry the third, who, in 1217, made a grant of it to William de Cassingham, for his support in the king's service; but a part of the tithes had been previously granted to the priory of St. Botolph, in Colchester, by Henry the first.

Hatfield-
bury.

In 1237 this manor, with that of *Writtle*, was granted in fee to Isabel, sister and co-heiress of John, earl of Chester, married to Robert de Brus, earl of Anandale; she was succeeded by her son Robert, who was one of the competitors for the crown of Scotland, and married Isabel, daughter of Gilbert de Clare, earl of Gloucester. His son and heir was Robert Brus, earl of Carrick in right of his lady Margaret, daughter and heiress of Neil, earl of Carrick. He died in 1304, holding this manor† of the king in capite, by the service of half a knight's fee, and the half hundred of Harlow, which belonged to this manor:‡ his son Robert was his successor, who, asserting his right to the kingdom of Scotland, and being in 1306 crowned at Scone, was, by king Edward the first, deprived of this and all his other estates in England:

* Mr. Arthur Young observes, “Sir John Barrington possesses, in Hatfield Forest, a very beautiful oak, for which a timber merchant offered one hundred guineas; near it is the ruin of a most venerable one, which gave the name of Broad Oak to Hatfield.”—*Young's Agriculture of Essex*, vol. ii. p. 150.

† In the record said to be in *Broomeshoobery*.

‡ Robert, the father, had five sons and nine daughters; Edward, his second son, was slain in Ireland; Neil, Thomas, and Alexander, having been captured by king Edward the first, were sacrificed to his cruelty and revenge by the hands of the executioner: Neil at Berwick, in 1306; Thomas and Alexander at Carlisle, in 1307.

BOOK II. he married Isabel, daughter of Donald, earl of Marr; and secondly, Mary, daughter of Aymer de Burgh, earl of Ulster. By the second he had David, king of Scots, who died without issue: by the first he had Margery, married to Walter Steuart; she died by a fall from her horse, when, being with child, her son, Robert Steuart, king of Scotland, was taken from her by the Cæsarean operation.

The crown retained this manor till Edward the second gave it to Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex, and to his wife Elizabeth, seventh daughter of king Edward the first, to them and their heirs; but Richard de Waleys held the third part of it till his decease in 1330. Humphrey de Bohun died in 1321, and was succeeded by his son, John de Bohun, earl of Hertford and Essex, who died without issue in 1335, and was succeeded by his brother Humphrey, whose successor, on his decease in 1361, was Humphrey de Bohun, son of his brother William, earl of Northampton. He married Joan, daughter of Richard, earl of Arundel, and dying in 1372, left his daughters, Eleanor, married to Thomas of Woodstock, sixth son of king Edward the third, and Mary, married to Henry, earl of Derby, eldest son of John of Gaunt, duke of Lancaster, afterwards king Henry the fourth. Of these, Thomas of Woodstock enjoyed this estate till his murder in 1397. He left Anne, married to Edmund, earl of Stafford, slain in 1403, at the battle of Shrewsbury. In 1421, a partition was made of the Bohun estates between this Anne and king Henry the fifth; the lady Anne had this, with other possessions, for her purparty; and it descended to Humphrey Stafford, her son, who, on account of his alliance to the royal family, was, in 1444, advanced to the title of duke of Buckingham, by king Henry the sixth; and, in 1459, was slain, fighting for that king at the battle of Northampton. His heir was his grandson Henry, the son of his son Humphrey, who had been slain at the battle of St. Alban's; this Henry Stafford being accused of treason, was beheaded in 1483, and this and his other estates were forfeited to the crown. Edward, his son, was restored to his honours and estates, but, in 1521, fell a sacrifice to the malice of Thomas Wolsey, and had his estates again seized by the crown: in 1547, this of Hatfield was granted, by Edward the sixth, to sir Richard Rich, lord Rich, and his heirs,* in which noble family it continued till the failure of issue male, by the death of Charles lord Rich, earl of Warwick, in 1673; when the estates being divided between the several co-heirs, this manor became the property of sir Charles Barrington, in right of his mother Anne, daughter of Robert Rich, earl of Warwick, which the Barrington family, his descendants, have retained to the present time.†

* His son, Robert lord Rich, who died in 1581, held this manor, the park (then disparked) and all the premises, with the ward-staff; which shews that the service of the ward-staff came as low as Elizabeth's reign.

† The parish of Barrington, in Cambridgeshire, is believed to have received its name from, or given it to, this ancient family, who trace their pedigree to sir Odonel, or Odynel de Barenton, baron of Wagon,

Barrington Hall, their ancient seat, is about a mile and a half from the church; when the family removed, part of this house was pulled down, and what remained made to form the present residence, which was leased, with a considerable portion of land, to the family of Nicholls, who have held this estate for at least a century; the

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Barrington Hall.

a descendant of — Barenton, who distinguished himself in the service of Emma, queen of king Ethelred, father of Edward the confessor, and who had the custody of Hatfield Forest. His possessions were taken from him by the Conqueror: but his son, sir Eustace de Barenton, engaged in the service of Henry the first, obtained from him the custody of Hatfield Forest, and also allowance peaceably to hold all his lands here and elsewhere: Humphrey, his son, living in the reigns of Henry the first, Stephen, and Henry the second, had the privileges enjoyed by his father confirmed. Alberic de Vere granted him the manor of Barringtons, in Chigwell; and he had the manor of Kelvedon, in marriage with Gresild, sister of sir Ralph Marcy: Humphrey, his son, lived in the reigns of Henry the second, Richard the first, and John, and was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1197; formerly an office of much greater authority and importance than at present. He married Amicia, daughter of sir William, third son of sir Geoffrey de Mandeville, earl of Essex, who gave him his lands in Sheperide: Sir Nicholas, his son, was the first of the family who resided at Barrington Hall. He was appointed woodward, and chief forester of Hatfield Forest, and summoned before him the regards, verderers, and agisters in the forest of Essex. He married, first, Mary, daughter of sir John Bovil; and secondly, Maud, daughter of sir Ralph Mortoft. By the first he had no issue, but by the second had seven sons and one daughter, Margaret, married to sir James Umfrevill. Sir Nicholas Barrington, the eldest son and heir, lived in the reigns of Henry the third and Edward the first; and marrying Agnes, daughter and heiress of sir William Chetwynd, had by her three sons and four daughters: sir Nicholas, the eldest son, married Alice, daughter and heiress of sir Richard Belhouse, and had by her Nicholas, Thomas, Roger, and sir Philip; Nicholas, the eldest son, married Emma, daughter and co-heiress of sir Robert Baard, and had by her four sons and one daughter. Sir John, the eldest son, marrying Margaret, daughter and heiress of sir John Blomville, had John and Edward: John, the eldest son, was living in the reigns of Henry the fourth and fifth, and was the first who assumed the name of Barrington instead of Barenton: he married Alice, one of the daughters of Thomas Battle, younger son of sir John Battle, of Ongar Park, by whom he had Thomas, Humphrey, and Elizabeth, married to John Sulyard, esq. Thomas Barrington, esq. was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1451. He died in 1472, on the 5th of April, and Anne, his wife, died on the following day; she was the daughter and co-heiress of sir John Holbeach. Humphrey, the second son of John Barrington, was the next heir. He married Margaret, daughter of — Bretton, and on his death left by her his son Humphrey. Nicholas, son of Humphrey, died in 1505: by his first wife Anne, daughter of Thomas Darcy, esq. of Tolleshunt Darcy, he had Richard and Nicholas; by Elizabeth, his second wife, he had no issue. Richard, the eldest son, dying soon after his father, was succeeded by his brother Nicholas: he was created a knight-banneret in 1512, and died in 1515, leaving, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of sir John Brocket, of Brocket Hall, in Hertfordshire, his son John, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Bonham, esq. of Bradwell, near Coggeshall, by Catharine his wife, sister to John lord Marney, and died in 1537, leaving by her Thomas, his only son, who, in 1562, was high sheriff for Essex and Hertfordshire, and, in 1571, received the honour of knighthood: was a second time high sheriff for Essex in 1580, and representative for Essex in the parliament that met on the 14th of Elizabeth. He married, first, Alice, daughter of sir Henry Parker, and had by her Elizabeth, married to Edward Harris, esq. of Southminster. His second wife was Winifred, daughter and co-heiress of Henry Pole, lord Montacute, relict of sir Thomas Hastings: the said Henry being the son of Richard Pole, knight of the garter, by Margaret Plantagenet, sister and heiress of Edward, earl of Warwick, and daughter of George, duke of Clarence, younger brother of king Edward

BOOK II. present occupier being the widow of Mr. Thomas Nicholls. There are two portraits in one of the bed-rooms, which are believed to represent some of the Barringtons. The new seat, also called Barrington Hall, or New Barrington Hall, erected by sir John Barrington, is north of the site of the priory, and is a large noble brick building.

Priory. The ancient priory was a large timber building, near the east end of the church,

the fourth: in consequence, the family quarter the royal arms. (The seventh and eighth Henries, conscious of the just claims of this rival house of Plantagenet, pursued the unfortunate relatives of it with singular injustice and unrelenting cruelty, till the name became extinct. The last male was this Edward, earl of Warwick, a child of most unhappy fortune, nursed in a prison from his cradle, and unjustly put to death by Henry the seventh; and the last of the name, his sister, the lady Margaret, fell a victim to the savage ferocity of Henry the eighth; and, struggling against her fate, was forcibly dragged to the block by the hands of a ruffian entangled in her hoary locks, made venerable by a life of nearly eighty years!) By his second wife, sir Thomas Barrington had Francis, Henry, a gentleman pensioner, who died without issue, and Katharine, married to William, son and heir to sir Ralph Bouchier, *knt.* of Benningborough, in Yorkshire. Francis, the eldest son, succeeded to the family estate, which was greatly enlarged. He was in the parliament of the forty-third of Elizabeth; in all those of James the first, except the second; and in the three first of Charles the first. In 1603, he was honoured with knighthood, and, in 1611, at the first institution of the dignity of baronetage, was the twentieth in the order of creation. His lady was Joan, daughter of sir Henry Cromwell, *knt.* of Hinchbrook, in Huntingdonshire, by whom he had sir Thomas, Robert, who married Dorothy, daughter of sir Thomas Eden, *knt.* of Suffolk, widow of — Barrett, whose posterity were at Lacheleys, in Steeple Bumsted; Francis, of London, who married a daughter of Richard Dowset, and left a son named Francis; John, a captain, who died in Germany: the daughters of sir Francis were Elizabeth, married to sir James Altham, *knt.* and afterwards to sir William Masham, *bart.* Mary, married to sir Gilbert Gerard, of Harrow on the Hill; Winifred, wife of sir William Mewes, or Meux, *knt.*; Ruth, of sir Geo. Lamplugh, *knt.* of Cumberland; and Joan, of sir Richard Everard, *bart.* of Much Waltham. Sir Thomas Barrington, *knt.* and *bart.* married, first, Frances, daughter and co-heiress of John Gobert, *esq.* of Coventry: and, secondly, Judith, daughter of sir Rowland Lytton, *knt.* of Knebworth, in Hertfordshire; she died in 1637, without issue; but by his first lady he had John, Oliver, and Gobert; and Lucy, married first to William Cheyney, *esq.* and secondly to sir Toby Tyrell, *bart.* both of Buckinghamshire. Sir Thomas was member of parliament for Essex in the fifteenth of Charles the first, one of the burgesses for Colchester in 1640, and died in 1644. Sir John Barrington, *knt.* and *bart.* married Dorothy, daughter of sir William Lytton, of Knebworth, *knt.* and had by her Thomas, Francis, John, William, and a second Francis. Thomas Barrington, *esq.* eldest son of sir John, married lady Anne, daughter of Robert, and at length co-heiress of Charles, earl of Warwick: he died in 1681, in his father's life-time, leaving John, Charles, Rich, Mary, and Anne: sir John, the elder son, in 1682, succeeded his grandfather in honour and estate, but died unmarried in 1691. Sir Charles, his next brother and heir, married, first, Bridget, only daughter and heiress of sir John Munson, *bart.* of Broxbourn, in Hertfordshire; and secondly, Anna Maria, daughter of William lord Fitzwilliam, of Milton, in Northamptonshire, but had no issue by either. Sir Charles becoming very popular, was seven times elected member of parliament for the county; and, in the reign of queen Anne, was deputy-lieutenant and vice-admiral of Essex. He died in 1715, and was buried with his ancestors in the family vault, in St. Catharine's chapel, in the chancel of this church. Sir John Barrington, *bart.* son of John Barrington, of Dunmow, his father's younger brother, succeeded to his estate in the Isle of Wight. This in Essex he gave to his sister Anne, wife of Charles Shales, *esq.* for life; and on her decease she was succeeded by Riche Barrington Shales, *esq.* and, on his death, his younger brother was his heir.

founded in 1135, by Alberic de Vere, second of the name,* and father of Alberic, the first earl of Oxford: it was for black monks, and dedicated to St. Mary and St. Melanius Redonensis, a British or Armorican saint, to whom an abbey at Rennes, in Bretagne, was dedicated, and probably this was a cell to that house; but Alberic, the third earl, or his son Robert, who was buried in it, is supposed to have increased the revenues, and made it an independent priory. The patronage remained in the family of Vere till the dissolution; after which the site and revenues of it were granted, by king Henry the eighth, and queen Mary, to Thomas Noke, who died in 1559, and whose son, Robert Noke, sold them, in 1564, to Thomas Barrington, esq. on which the family removed here, where they resided a considerable time; till being in a state requiring some repairs, sir Charles Barrington consulted a workman about taking it down, but gave him no orders: however, in sir Charles's absence, the man demolished the building, without any order to do so, which was the cause of considerable inconvenience and loss to the family, who removed to a small house belonging to sir Richard Everard, in Great Waltham. Charles Shales, esq. the next owner of the estate, repaired a house nearly opposite to the site of the priory; and his son, John Barrington Shales, esq. erected an elegant mansion here, and enclosed it in a park.

The ancient name of this capital mansion is synonymous with Broomhill; it is about a mile eastward from the church, near High Roding; it is enclosed by a moat. This estate was formerly a hamlet to the parish, and included in the capital manor. It belonged to Robert de Bruce in 1303, who made it the place of his residence; and a grant has been preserved, made by him to the convent of Tremhall, of a shoulder of every deer that should be killed in his park of Hatfield: it is written in Norman French, and dated from Broomshoo. In 1460, Henry Buckingham, duke of Stafford, held this estate as belonging to the capital manor, by knight's service; and following the fate of that unfortunate family, it passed to the crown. In 1544, it was granted by Henry the eighth to Thomas Jocelyn and Dorothy his wife, and the heirs of the said Thomas, to hold by the twentieth part of a knight's fee. A grant was afterwards made of it to sir Richard Rich; but this was ineffectual, or made void; for the estate has continued in the family to the present time.

Broom-
shoobury.

The manor of Ballingtons has the mansion about a mile north-west from the church: it has been also named Rye; and Rise, or Rises Marses, usually went along with it, and lies nearer the forest gate; these, together, have been called a manor, yet are holden of the capital manor, and subject to a fine on alienation. Ralph de Marci held lands here at the time of the survey, of the fee of Hamo; and the name of Marses is believed to be derived from him: they are understood to be what was more anciently named Belindune and Siriceslea, and so entered in Domesday. In the reign of

Ballingtons, and
Rise.

* There is an inscription in the chancel of Hatfield church, which erroneously attributes the founding of this priory to the third earl of Oxford.

BOOK II. Edward the confessor, Belindune belonged to Aluric, a freeman; and Siriceslea to Harold, as part of the manor of Hatfield. Under the Conqueror, Siriceslea was holden by Peter de Valoines, and his under-tenant Ralph Fatatus; and Belindune was holden by Hamo Dapifer, and Ralph his under-tenant. In 1602, Richard Francke, esq. was sheriff of Essex, and held Rise, Marces, and Eves, and the manor of Bollingtons, with appertenances: he had also in this parish, Robert-a-Braintrees, Ongars, Thomas-by-the-Wood, &c. He married Dorothy, daughter and co-heiress of John Leventhorp, esq. of Albury, in Hertfordshire, and on his death, in 1627, was succeeded by his son, sir Leventhorp Francke, knt., who married —, daughter of sir Thomas Cottele, knt. a German, by whom he had six daughters. He sold this estate to Benjamin Woodrof, D.D., who married a daughter of sir John Stonehouse, knt., of Aberdeen Hall, in Debden, and on his decease left two daughters, his co-heiresses, who sold the estate to Geoffrey Stane, esq. who much improved the house, with gardens and outhouses; it was built after the model of Pishobury and Hamels, in Hertfordshire, designed by Inigo Jones. By Mary his wife, Mr. Stane's only daughter was Sarah, married to Richard Chamberlain, esq. in 1721, sheriff of Essex, on whose son Mr. Stane settled the estate. He, in 1745, married the daughter and heiress of Thomas Smith, esq. of West Kennet, in Wiltshire, niece and heiress of Robert Plumer, esq. of Hoddesdon, in Hertfordshire.

The Lea.

The Lea, in Domesday, is named Bineslea, and holden by Peter de Valoines; having in the Confessor's reign belonged to Ulwin. In 1479, Thomas Urswick died in possession of it: Katharine, wife of Henry Langley; Anne, wife of John Doreward, and Elizabeth, Joan, and Mary, were his daughters and co-heiresses. It afterwards belonged to Mr. Davenport, who left it to his grandson, Mr. Charles Hoy; who sold it to Geoffrey Stane, esq. and it was settled, as Rise was, upon his grandson, Stane Chamberlayne, esq.

Down Hall.

Down Hall is three miles south-west from the church: the small stream that runs through the town of Hatfield also passes here; the beautiful ornamented grounds of this elegant seat rise from its borders, and the surrounding country in every direction offers prospects highly interesting. In the Norman French of ancient deeds this place is called "La Donne," and, in Domesday, Belcamp: in the Confessor's reign, it had belonged to Ulwin, and at the survey was in the possession of Alberic de Vere, whose successor made it part of the endowment of Hatfield priory: after the dissolution of that house, this manor was, in 1540, granted to William Berners, Walter Farre, and William Glascock; and it was soon afterwards purchased by William Glascock, of Great Dunmow, who died in 1579, leaving Richard, his son, his successor; who married Elizabeth, daughter of William Brown, of Bobbingworth, and had by her Richard, Robert (of Ireland), and seven daughters; Richard, the eldest son, married Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Bowles, of Wellington, in Hertfordshire,

and dying, in 1624, left Elizabeth, his only daughter, his heiress, who was married to John Ballet, esq., descended from the Ballets, of Ufford, in Suffolk: they had eight sons and two daughters; and she dying in 1649, and he in 1673, both lie buried in the church of Matching. Richard, their son, who came to this inheritance, left it to his nephew, John Ballet, esq. who married a daughter of the rev. Richard Marriott, vicar of Great Canfield, by whom he had three sons and three daughters; of whom John, the eldest son, sold this estate to the right hon. Robert Harley, earl of Oxford; and it was chosen as a quiet retirement, by the poet Prior.* After having filled many public employments with ability, this celebrated genius found himself, at the age of fifty-three, in danger of poverty; but his friends procured a subscription for his poems, which amounted to four thousand guineas; and lord Harley, son of the earl of Oxford, to whom he had invariably adhered, added an equal sum for the purchase of this place, which the poet was to enjoy during life, and Harley after his decease. "He had now" (says Dr. Johnson) "what wits and philosophers have often wished, the power of passing the day in contemplative tranquillity." But it seems that busy men seldom live long in a state of quiet. It is not unlikely that his health declined. He complained of deafness; "for (says he) I took little care of my ears, while I was not sure that my head was my own;" alluding to the terrors of an impeachment, which at one time he had to fear. He died in 1721, at Wimpole, in Cambridgeshire, the seat of the earl of Oxford. After his death, the noble proprietor much improved the grounds, cut vistas through an adjoining wood, and sometimes made it the place of his residence. The present mansion, a handsome edifice, was rebuilt some time ago. In the eye of the lover of classic ground, however, it will yet retain a value for having been the residence of Prior, whose name stands conspicuous in the annals of British poetry.

Down Hall was afterwards purchased by William Selwyn, esq., and is now the seat of Charles Ibbetson Selwyn, esq.

The manor of Matching Barnes is three miles distant from the church southward, on the borders of the parish of Matching, into which it seems to have formerly extended: this has been inferred from a terrier, and from an ancient writing copied by Mr. Newcourt, which entitles the vicar of Matching to all the tithes of hay and corn on the eastern side of the highway from Stortford to Ongar, and to four cheeses yearly from the land of Matching Barnes, which lies in Matching. This estate is

Matching
Barnes.

* He wrote a ballad on the subject of his journey with his friend, John Morley, of Halstead, the celebrated land-jobber, to take a view of his new place of residence; it is named Down Hall, and appears in his works:—

—“ I sing of exploits that have lately been done
By two British heroes called Matthew and John,
And how they rid friendly from fine London town

Fair Essex to see, and a place they call Down;
Where are gardens so stately, and arbours so thick,
A portal of stone and a fabric of brick.”

BOOK II. called Machekes, in the charter of king Henry the second, to the priory of St. Valery, and was with its other possessions, granted away from the church, on the dissolution of that foreign house. In the reign of Edward the confessor, Godred, a freeman, held this estate; and after the church was dispossessed of it, the next recorded owner was Nicholas Barrington, esq. in 1488: he died in 1505, and was succeeded by his son, sir Nicholas, who holding it, with Brent-hall, of Edward duke of Buckingham, died in 1515; this with the rest of the estate descended to the Barrington family.

Lancas-
ters.

A family named Lancaster, in the time of Henry the sixth, had possession of an estate here, which has retained their name; it is a mile and a quarter distant from the church southward, and is included in the Barrington estate.

Brank-
trees.

Branktrees is an estate about three quarters of a mile southward from the church, and was also named from a family, of whom a female heiress conveyed it to the Jocelyns, and becoming afterwards the property of Mr. Lowe, he left it for charitable uses. Other estates in this parish, are Hatfield Forest, Chace, and Park. Bennington Green, Bushey-end, Broad Gates, Waters, Perse-Williams, Skringills, Fryers.

Forest
and
chace.

The forest and chace, anciently part of the king's demesnes, were at an early period in the custody of the family of Barrington: in 1265, Humphrey de Barenton held half a virgate in Hatfield, by the service of keeping the king's park and wood in that town; and sir Nicholas de Barrington, his son, held the offices of woodward and chief forester in Hatfield forest: sir John, his grandson, had these offices confirmed by letters patent of Edward the third, in 1355, referring to the charters of Stephen, and Henry the third.

This district is sometimes named Takeley, and sometimes Hatfield-forest, and the ancient customs for the government of the lords and tenantry are the following: "the lord of the manor of Hatfield hath *nine* copses of wood, besides outlands that lie open: the lord of Hallingbury has as many, about thirty acres in a copse. When they fell any, they must inclose it for nine years to preserve the wood; and it must lie open nine years more, before they fell it. The poor are to have the hedges at the nine years' end. The lord of Hatfield's tenants, belonging to the ancient demesnes, have the right of commoning for all sorts of cattle all the year. The lord of Hallingbury has a right of common for deer only, but not for any of his tenants for their cattle. The lord of Hatfield is paramount lord, and all waifs and strays are brought to his court and pound; but the lord of Hallingbury is lord of the soil, and the tenants of the other lord cannot dig clay without his leave: the contents of the whole is about 2000 acres.*

Church.

The church, in the most conspicuous part of the parish, is a very handsome and lofty

* In 1576, Robert lord Rich granted to sir Thomas Barrington, knt. and his heirs, all woods and trees in Bush-end quarter, and Takeley quarter, except the land and soil, with liberty to enclose them.—*Sir Edward Cook's Reports. Pasch. viii. Jacobi, p. 779.*

building, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It has a nave, south aisle, and chancel; the chancel having north and south aisles, and a vestry on each side: the whole building is leaded, and in a stone steeple are six bells. Having lands left for that purpose, it is kept in good repair; and the wainscoting is particularly excellent.

The writings belonging to the Barrington family are deposited in the vestry on the north, which is understood to have formed part of the chapel of the priory. In the other vestry there is a library, placed there in 1708, by sir Charles Barrington, by the advice of the rev. George Stirling, A.M. ;* and there being no parsonage-house, a small garden and a house were given by sir Charles to Mr. Stirling, who expended one hundred and fifty pounds in improvements, having carefully treasured up that sum out of his livings of Matching and Hatfield: he had been at no expense for diet, always eating at sir Charles's table. But he neglected to get a proper settlement of it, and upon the death of the donor, no conveyance was to be found.

The tithes of the capital manor of this parish were given, by king Henry the first, to the priory of St. Botolph, in Colchester; what remained, including the tithes of Priors Hall, Down Hall, &c. being given by Alberic de Vere to his foundation here. In process of time, all the tithes of this parish were, however, claimed by the priory of Hatfield; and after some dispute, a final agreement was concluded, which gave all the tithes of the royal lordship, and other places in this parish, to the prior and convent of Hatfield Regis, and their successors; they paying to the prior and convent of St. Botolph, and their successors, the sum of three pounds, in lieu of their portion of the tithes. From this period the prior and convent, having the great tithes, supplied the cure by their own members, till a vicarage was ordained, sometime previous to the year 1370, from which period they remained patrons till their dissolution. In 1534, this vicarage was improved in its endowment by a composition of Robert Noke, the vicar, and Richard the prior; by which it was ordered that the vicar, besides his offerings and accustomed fees, should have all sorts of small tithes. In 1546, after the suppression of monasteries, Henry the eighth granted this rectory and church, with appertinances, to the master, fellows, and scholars of Trinity college, Cambridge, of his foundation, having previously, in 1536, granted to the vicar fifty-three shillings and four pence for his pension, with some other emoluments: hence the gift has remained in the impropiators, and on account of the smallness of the living, disproportioned to the extent of the parish and importance of the cure, it is stated to have remained unpresented to, from the year 1619, for nearly a hundred years; all which time it went by way of sequestration, the clear yearly value being only six pounds, besides surplus fees. In 1679, Dr. Clarke, dean of Winchester, intended an augmen-

* This gentleman, who had long possessed the vicarage by way of sequestration, in 1717, took out the broad seal, on being informed that another person was applying for it; by this means gaining a security against the hungry pretender.—*Morant*.

BOOK II.

tation of thirty pounds yearly to this and several other poor vicarages, but fell so far short of his intentions, that Mr. Stirling did not think fit to hold the vicarage otherwise than by sequestration: afterwards, Dr. Montague, master of Trinity college, and the fellows, upon granting a new lease of the rectory, made an addition to the vicarage of twenty-four pounds yearly.

Walter Percival and Robert Hanbury founded and endowed a chantry in this church for a priest to pray for their souls. The lands belonging to it were considerable, and, in 1548, were granted to various persons, by king Edward the sixth. In 1568 a tenement here, called "the Guild-house," was granted by queen Elizabeth to Edward Grimston and William le Grys; and also another tenement, called "the old Guildhall," with Sunday's croft, two shops, and Dod's meadow.*

In 1821, this parish contained one thousand six hundred and ninety-three, and in 1831, one thousand eight hundred and twenty-five inhabitants.

Monu-
mental
inscrip-
tions.

* The monument of Robert de Vere, third earl of Oxford, with his effigies (as described in Gough's *Sepulchral Monuments*, p. 39,) is still in its place, but considerably injured by chance or negligence: the left leg and foot are broken, and the angels at the head and feet reduced to a shapeless mass. The only inscription which remains is on the ledge of the slab at the head, and is as follows:—") ST + STR."

In the north aisle of the nave, on a tablet of wood, is painted the following memorial:—"Robert de Vere, the third earl of Oxford, and great chamberlain of England, about the beginning of the reign of king Henry the third, founded a priory of black monks in Hatfield Regis, als Broadoke, valued at ye suppression at one hundred and fifty-seven pounds three shillings and two pence halfpenny per annum. He was first entombed in a chapel of his own foundation, and at the dissolution removed into the quire of the parish church. He lieth cross-legged, with this inscription:—"Sire Robert de Vere le premier count de Oxenford le tirtz git ici Dieux de l'alme si lui plest face merci qi p... l'alme priera XL... de pardon avera. Pater noster," &c.—Thus Englished: 'Sir Robert de Vere, the first of that name and third earl of Oxford, lyeth here. God have mercy upon his soul—if he pleaseth whoever shall pray for his soul shall obtain forty days' pardon.' He dyed in the year of our Lord God 1221; which priory Aubrey de Vere, ye third of that Christian name, earl of Oxford, enfeofed with ye tythes of this town, and to the instrument of his donation he affixed by a harp-string, as a labell to ye bottom of ye parchment, a short black-hafted knife like unto an old half-penny whittle instead of a seal.

"These are the words of his grant: 'Per istum cultum Albericus de Vere terius fleoffavit prioratum et conventum de Hatfield Regis, alias Broadoake, cum omnibus decimis in predicta villa habend', &c. A festo assumptionis Beate Marie Virginis in puram et perpetuam eleemosynam,' &c."

In the north aisle of the chancel, on a handsome mural monument, adorned with cherubs and festoons of flowers:—"H. S. E. Johannes Barrington, baronettus, filius et hæres Thomæ Barrington, arm. ex Anna filia et cohærede Roberti comitis de Warwick. Eximie spei juvenis præclaræ et perantiquæ hujus familiæ conjugio olim honoratæ cum pronepote et cohærede Georgii ducis Clarentiæ (regis Edri 4ti fratris) decus et ornamentum. Qui post aliquot annos in academia Cantabrigiensis feliciter peractos ad externas regiones videndas uberioris culturæ causâ recessit, sed pro dolor! absoluta jam peregrinatione et ad suos denuo reversus variolis illico correptus mortem obiit, notis omnibus et cognotis jure merito lugendus. Natus 16 Oct. 1670. In Angliam rediit 20 Oct. 1691. Fatis cessit 26 Nov. 1691. Hoc monumentum memoriæ charissimi fratris sacrum sorores ejus dilectissimæ Maria et Anna pro animi affectu et propriis impensis erigi curarunt."—In English: "Here lies sir John Barrington, baronet, son and heir of Thomas Barrington, esq. by Ann, daughter and co-heiress of Robert earl of Warwick: he was a very hopeful youth, and the honour and ornament of this noble and very ancient family, which was once honoured

HALLINGBURY.

Two delightful parishes, on the north-western extremity of this half-hundred, and on the borders of Hertfordshire, have been named Great and Little Hallingbury: in records, Halingebra, Hallingbery, and Hallingburyburgh; in Domesday, Hallingebiri;

Halling-
bury.

by a marriage with the great grand-daughter and co-heiress of George duke of Clarence, brother of king Edward the fourth. After some years profitably spent in the university of Cambridge, he commenced his travels into foreign countries, for further improvement; but, alas! his travels being completed, and being again returned to his friends, he was immediately seized with the small pox and died, deservedly lamented by all his acquaintances and relations. He was born on the 16th of October, 1670; he returned to England on the 20th of October, 1691: he died on the 26th of November, 1691. His beloved sisters, Mary and Ann, caused this monument to be erected, at their own expense, to the memory of a brother truly dear to them."—Arms of Barrington: Argent, three chevronels, gules, in chief a file of three lambeaux, or, a label of three points, azure. Crest: On a torse argent and gules, a man coupe below the shoulders; garment, paly argent and or; crined sable; a band; escarsioned gules. A round cap on his head, sable, bordered argent. They quartered the arms of Clarence; i.e. England and France quarterly, a file of three lambeaux. Pale; parti per pale, or and azure, a saltier engrailed, counterchanged. They also quartered the arms of Neville, Beauchamp, Warwick, Montacute, Mandeville, &c.

"In a vault underneath are deposited the remains of Stanes Chamberlayne, of Ryes, in this parish, esq. and Thermanthes his wife, eldest daughter and co-heir of Thomas Smith, of West Kennet, in the county of Wilts, esq. He died 26th day of June, 1782, aged 62. She, 11th July 1780, aged 68." "Non extinguetur."—Arms quarterly one and four gules, an inescutcheon argent between eight mullets, or, two and three argent, a bend cotised sable; over all an escutcheon of pretence. Or, a unicorn's head erased, gules on a chief, sable, three lozenges of the field. Crest out of a ducal coronet, or (broken).

"Sacred to the memory of Mary, the beloved wife of Stanes Chamberlayne, esq. of Ryes, in this parish, only daughter and heiress of the late William Bocket, esq. of Spain's Hall, in the county of Essex. She died May 22, 1819, aged 61 years."—Arms quarterly one and four gules, an inescutcheon, argent, between eight mullets or, two gules, three bendlets or, three, or, a unicorn's head erased, gules on a chief, sable, three lozenges of the field; over all an escutcheon of pretence. Or, a cross fleury, sable.

A pyramidal monument. "Sacred to the memory of William Selwin, of Down Hall, in this parish, esquire; also his wife, four sons, and one daughter, all interred in a vault in this church. He was formerly a merchant in London, to which profession he did immortal honour by his unceasing vigilance and unerring probity. He departed this life 28th June, 1768, aged 82. Jane, widow of John Caygill, esq. of Shay, near Halifax, in the county of York, his only surviving daughter, erected this monument."—Arms: Argent, a bend cotised, sable, charged with three annulets, or, within a bordure engrailed gules, impaling, sable, three leopards' faces argent.

"Sacred to the memory of lady Ibbetson, late of Down Hall in this county, and relict of sir James Ibbetson, bart. of Denton-park, in the county of York: she departed this life on the 21st day of August, 1816, in the 72d year of her age. Her son, Charles Selwin, of Down Hall, erected this monument."

In the church-yard.—"Mr. Thomas Nicholls, died June 24, 1820, aged 51. (This Thomas Nicholls, and his father, Zachariah Nicholls, were of *Old Barrington Hall*, and lessees under the Barringtons. The family still reside there.) Zachariah Nicholls, died 10th 1816, aged 24. William Nicholls died June 21, 1814, aged 21."

On a wooden tablet against the north wall of the church: "The charities belonging to the church and

BOOK II. probably in Saxon times forming one possession and undivided. They were both taken out of the forest of Essex, to which they were reckoned to belong in 1227.*

Great
Halling-
bury.

The largest of the Hallingburies has been called Great Hallingbury, and also Hallingbury Morley, from the noble family of that name, a considerable time the chief lords here. It is distant from Bishop Stortford two, and from London twenty-nine miles. There are two manors; of which the mansion of Great Hallingbury is near the church: two freemen had possession of the lands of this manor in the reign of Edward the confessor, and it belonged to Roger Otburville after the Conquest; whose descendant, in 1200, was William de Languallei; who, dying in 1210, was succeeded by his son of the same name, who died in 1217, and left Hawise, his only daughter, under the wardship of Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, and chief justice of England; and he married her to John de Burgh, his son, to whom she conveyed this manor, and Lexden: she died in 1249, and her son John de Burgh had livery of her estates in 1274; which he held of the king in capite of the barony of Lannvaley. He died in 1280, and left his daughters, Devorguil, second wife of Robert Fitzwalter; Hawise, married to Robert Gresley; and Christian, a nun at Chicksand. Devorguil died in the beginning of the reign of Edward the second, and, by the courtesy of England, her husband enjoyed her estates; and obtained licence for Christian, one of his three daughters, that Hallingbury should be in her purparty: but she became a nun in the priory of Halwell, near London, on which the inheritance is supposed to have gone to her sisters; one of whom was married to John le Mareshall, who had this estate in 1315. William, their son, was the father of John le Mareshall, of Hengham, in Norfolk; and of a daughter named Hawise, who, on the death of her brother, in 1316, without issue, succeeded to his estates, which she conveyed to her husband, Robert de

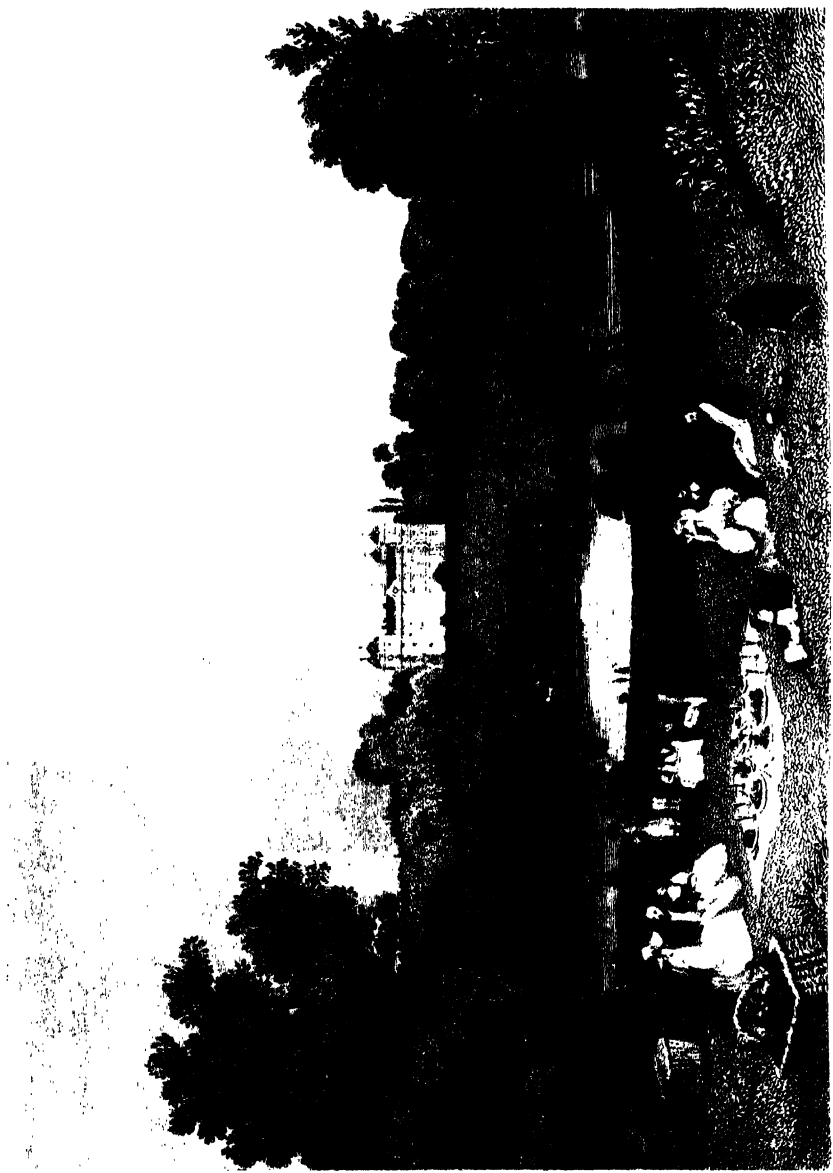
poor of Hatfield Regis, alias Hatfield Broadoak, according to a decree in the high court of chancery by my lord-keeper North, the thirty-fifth year of king Charles the second, 1684."

Value per annum at improved rents, 1776:—

CHURCH.					
Almonds, or Bridge-foot farm, lying near			Galley lands in White Roothing parish..	5	0 0
Barrington-hall.....£46	0	0	John Gobert, esq. his gift	4	0 0
Long-croft, once a parcel of Almonds...	1	10 0	Town-grove, near Lea-green	2	15 0
Two closes and a grove near Stubber's			Dod's-mead, near Hatfield-heath	1	10 0
Bush, called Church Lands.....	3	10 0	Sunday-croft, near Needham-green	2	0 0
POOR.			Trinity-mead, near Mr. Man's house....	1	0 0
Brand's land, near Taverner's-green....	8	0 0	Eve's-acres, near Crabb's-green.....	0	8 0

Five almshouses: one by the school-house, of five rooms; and another by sir John Barrington's alms-house, of four rooms; a third by the town house, called Town Shops, of four rooms; a fourth at Mushbrook-street, of six rooms; a fifth in Broad-street, of four rooms.

* Perambulatio Forestæ.



Morle, or Morley, son of William Morley, of Morley, in Norfolk. He sat in parliament in 1299, and from 1304 to 1306; as did also his son Robert, from 1317 to 1357; and this latter was also, in right of his wife, hereditary marshal of Ireland; constituted admiral in 1339, and 1355; and constable of the Tower of London; a man of celebrity as a warrior. On his decease, in 1359, or 1360, he had this manor and the advowson of the church.* The estate continued in possession of this family and

* His son and successor, sir William Morley, was member of parliament from 1361 to 1378, and died in 1379, leaving by his wife, the lady Cecily, daughter of Thomas lord Bardolf, sir Thomas de Morley, his heir, who held this manor as parcel of the barony of Rye, which came into this family by Alivia, daughter of Hubert de Rye, married to John le Mareshall, whose surname was derived from his having obtained a grant of the marshalship of Ireland in 1207. Sir Thomas was an admiral and engaged in the wars with France; and was member of parliament from 1381 to the time of his death in 1416. He married Anne, daughter of Edward lord Despenser, widow of Hugh de Hastings; and had by her Robert, his eldest son and heir, who died before him, leaving, by his wife Isabel, daughter of lord Molines, his son Thomas, who succeeded his grandfather. He was much engaged in the French wars; and member of parliament from 1426 to 1434; and marrying Isabel, daughter of Michael de la Pole, earl of Suffolk, had Robert, his son, who was member of parliament in 1442, and died in 1443, leaving, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of lord Roos, his only daughter, Alianor, married to William Lovel, esq. younger son of William lord Lovel, of Tichmarsh, who took the title of lord Morley, and in her right enjoyed this manor of Hallingbury Morley, for the first time so named: he had also the advowson of the church. He died in 1475; and Henry, his son, was his successor, who married Elizabeth, daughter of John de la Pole, earl of Lincoln and duke of Suffolk, but had no issue; so that on his being slain in battle at Dixmuyde, in Flanders, in 1489, his estates descended to his sister Alice, married to sir William Parker, of London, the time of whose death is unknown: his lady had for her second husband, sir Edward Howard, second son of Thomas duke of Norfolk, knight of the garter and admiral of England, slain at Brest in 1513: the lady Alice enjoying the estate till her decease in 1518, was succeeded by her only son, Henry Parker, lord Morley, by that title member of parliament in 1529; he was one of the lords whose signatures were affixed to the threatening letter addressed to pope Clement the seventh. He was an author of some celebrity, wrote several tragedies and comedies, and translated into English, "The Tryumphes of Fraunces Petrarcke," and also wrote several pamphlets. He married Alice, daughter of sir John St. John, of Bletsho, by whom he had John, who died before him, without issue; Henry, Francis, Katharine, Jane, (married to John Boleyn, viscount Rochford,) and Margaret, married to sir John Shelton: he died in 1556. Sir Henry, his son, created knight of the bath at the coronation of queen Anne Boleyn, having died in 1550, had married first, Grace, daughter of John Newport, esq. of Hertfordshire; and, secondly, Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of sir Henry Calthorp, widow of sir William Woodhouse. By the first he had sir Henry, Thomas, Charles; Alice, (married to sir Thomas Barrington, knt. and bart.) and Mary, married to sir Thomas Leventhorp, knt. By his second wife he had several sons and daughters, from one of whom descended the family of Parker, of Arwarton, in Suffolk. Sir Henry Parker, lord Morley, succeeding his grandfather, married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of sir Edward Stanley, earl of Derby, and by her had Edward, Thomas, and Alice, married to sir Henry Brunckard. He died in 1577, and was succeeded by sir Edward Parker, lord Morley, his eldest son, who married Elizabeth, only daughter and heiress of William Stanley, lord Montegle, fifth son of Thomas, earl of Derby, and had by her William, Henry, Charles, and Mary, (married to Thomas Abbingdon, esq.), Elizabeth, wife of sir Alexander Barlow, and Frances, married to Christopher Danby, esq.: by his second lady, Gertrude, daughter of sir Robert Denys, sir Edward had no children: he died in 1618, and was succeeded by his son William, bearing the

BOOK II. their descendants, the lords Morley, till it passed from Thomas, lord Morley and Montegle, who died in 1697, to sir Edward Turner, speaker of the house of commons. He died in 1676, leaving sir Edward, his son, knighted by king Charles the second, and member of parliament for Oxford from 1700 to 1714: he married Isabella, daughter of William earl marshal of Scotland, by whom he had Charles, and two daughters; he died in 1721. In 1727, this manor, with those of Wallbury and Monkbury, were vested in trustees for the payment of his debts; and this was soon afterwards purchased by Jacob Houblon,* esq.

Halling-
bury
Place.

Hallingbury Place, the seat of John Archer Houblon, esq. is an elegant and stately mansion, on an eminence, within an extensive park, in a most pleasant part of the county; and in all directions fertile and well-wooded lands appear, interspersed with picturesque scenery. It is half a mile south-east from the church.

title of lord Montegle, in right of his mother, having had, in his father's life-time, a summons to the parliament to meet in 1605, by the style of sir William Parker de Montegle, knt. eldest son of Edward baron Morley; and it was to him that the letter was addressed which led to the discovery of the powder-plot. He married Elizabeth, daughter of sir Thomas Tresham, knt., by whom he had Henry, William, Charles, Frances (a nun at Douay), Katharine, (married to John Savage, son and heir of Thomas viscount Savage, afterwards earl Rivers), and Elizabeth, married to Edward Cranfield. Sir William died in 1622, and was succeeded by his eldest son, sir Henry Parker, lord Parker, of Rye, and Montegle; he had been made knight of the bath at the creation of Charles prince of Wales in 1616. Frances, eldest daughter of John Egerton, earl of Bridgewater, was his first lady, by whom no issue is recorded: his second was Philippa, youngest daughter and co-heiress of sir Thomas Carrel, knt. of Shipley, in Surrey, by whom he had his son and heir, who on his decease in 1655, succeeded, as Thomas lord Morley and Montegle; being the last of that noble family who had possession of this estate, which afterwards became the property of sir Edward Turner, speaker of the house of commons. Thomas lord Morley died in St. James's, Clerkenwell, in 1697, and was buried here.—Arms of lord Morley: Argent, a lion passant, gules, between two bars, sable, thereon three bezants: in chief, as many bucks' heads caboshed, of the third.

* James Houblon, of London, merchant, in 1620, married Mary Ducane, and had by her ten sons and three daughters; of whom sir James Houblon, knt. was alderman of London, and member of parliament for that city in 1698; he married Sarah Wynne, of London; and of his children, Elizabeth was married to John Harvey, esq. of Norfolk. Sir John Houblon, knt. and alderman of London, was the first governor of the Bank of England; lord mayor, and one of the commissioners of the admiralty, at the same time. He married Mary Jurion, of London: of his children, Sarah was married to Richard Mytton, esq. of Halston, in Shropshire; Jacob, rector of Moreton, in this county, married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Thomas Whincopp, D.D., and had by her Anne, married to Lilly Butler, D.D., rector of St. Anne's, Aldersgate; Elizabeth, married to Thomas Wragge, clerk; and Hannah who died unmarried. The rev. Jacob Houblon, rector of Bobbingworth, died unmarried: Charles, the eldest son, married Mary, daughter of Daniel Bates, of Abingdon, in Berkshire, by whom he had Jacob Houblon, esq. of Hallingbury; who married Mary, daughter of sir John Hind Cotton, bart. of Cambridgeshire, by whom he had Jacob, of Hallingbury, who married Susanna Archer, daughter of John Archer, esq. of Coopersale, by lady Mary, his wife, sister of earl Fitzwilliam. Jacob Houblon, the father, had also John, a barrister-at-law, and Letitia. The descendants of Jacob Houblon and Mary Archer were John Archer Houblon, esq. of Hallingbury Place, member of parliament for Essex; Maria, and Letitia. John Archer Houblon married the daughter of — Bramston, of Skreens; and had eleven children; John Houblon, esq. is their eldest son.

The manor of Wallbury has received its name from a Roman vallum, or fortress, which terminated in a precipice above the Stort. Before the Conquest, two freemen were in possession of this estate, which at that time consisted of two manors, of which one was double the value of the other; it therefore probably extended northward to the parish of Stortford, and southward to the present forest, taking in Wall-wood, which still preserves its name. There could not have otherwise been, at the Conquest, wood for feeding fifteen hundred hogs; and in queen Elizabeth's time, when it was converted into grazing and tillage, of the first, two hundred and sixty, and of the latter six hundred acres.

CHAP.
X.
Wallbury

In 1210, Walter de Hannil had lands here given to him by Richard the first, which he held by the service of being the king's falconer; and Roger de Ross, the king's tailor in the reign of Henry the third, held this estate, called a carucate of land, by the service of paying into the exchequer yearly, on the 30th of September, a silver needle. William de Valence, earl of Pembroke, in 1284; his son, Adomar de Valence, in 1323, and his widow, Mary de St. Paul, in 1376, held it by the same tenure. In 1428, it belonged to Richard Rede; succeeded by his son John, who died in 1436; whose successor was his cousin, Robert Rede, son of Philip, brother of Richard, the said John's father. The Redes are presumed to have held it, during a legal contest between Reginald, lord Grey, of Ruthyn, and Edward Hastings, which in its result gave this manor to lord Grey, from whose successor Edmund Grey, lord Hastings and de Ruthyn, it was conveyed to William Whetenhale; from whom it descended to George Whetenhale, esq. of East Peckham, in Kent; who on his decease, in 1573, left it to his son Thomas; who sold it in 1576 to Thomas Meade, esq. justice of the common pleas, and it passed, with the other manor, to Edward lord Morley, sir Edward Turnor, and to Jacob Houblon, esq.

An estate and manor, south from the church, partly in this parish and partly in Little Hallingbury, was given by Eudo Dapifer to the monks of St. John's abbey, in Colchester, and has on that account been named Monksbury. After the dissolution of monasteries, it was granted by Henry the eighth to Henry Parker, lord Morley, from whom it passed, with the other capital estates in this parish.

Monks-
bury.

Tile-kiln-green, Hugh's-green, Worsley-green, and Wood-row, are hamlets in this parish; and near Woodside-green there is a fair yearly, on Whitsun-Tuesday.

Hamlets.

The church is a small handsome building, of one pace, with the chancel; and an embattled tower contains five bells.*

* At Wallbury, anciently Wallia, in this parish, there is an irregular oval camp on

Antiqui-
ties.

* Inscriptions.—Above a large tomb-stone, on the north wall, six brass plates bear Latin inscriptions on the family of Morley: those are, Elizabeth de la Pole, daughter of the duke of Suffolk, wife of Henry Lovel, lord Morley, she died in 1480. Sir William Parker, lord Morley, who died in 1520. Alice, mother of sir Henry Parker, lord Morley, who died in 1528. Sir Henry Parker, lord Morley, who died in 1556.

Inscrip-
tions.

BOOK II. a steep hill, inclosing about thirty acres, with a bold double bank, and on the north some additional works on the brow of the hill. A road enters on the east side, but does not appear to have been continued to the west, where the river Stort, at the distance of two or three meadows, defends it. Here is, however, a gap in the inner vallum, and the ditch is filled up on this side, but the other bank is very steep: another road crosses it from north to south. Just within the west bank stands a farm-house of the same name; the south part of which, particularly the cellar, is built of rough work, strongly cemented together, with some pointed arches. The area was a rabbit warren, till ploughed up about sixty years ago, but is now divided into several fields." The area contains thirty acres, according to Dr. Salmon, who imagined it to be the Alauna of Ravennas; not reflecting (observes Mr. Gough) that the writer was describing the south-west coast of Britain, and that all his stations answer to places in Devon and Dorset.*

Relative to this district, Dr. Salmon has observed, that as there are some few places retaining the Roman names, or rather British names latinised, it may be conjectured that the Alauna Silva, of the anonymous writer of Ravenna, was here. The Silva, he thinks, corresponds with the forest of Essex, and the neighbourhood of London, as it is placed by this chorographer, with only Omire and Tederis between. Mr. Baxter's interpretation of Alauna, supercilium Annis, in his Glossary, agrees well with the situation of Wallbury camp, which terminates with a precipice above the Stort. There are about thirty acres here, double ditched, the entrenchments very little defaced; and the precipice on the north has some additional work on the brow of the hill.† Whether this be Alauna or not, it stands on the road from London to St. Edmundsbury, in Edward the confessor's time, as is shown under Greensted; and a road is presumed to have passed by Hallingbury-street to Stane-street on the north side of the forest of Hatfield. The Perambulation of Edward the first describes this street, leading from Stortford to Colchester, at which time the street was used chiefly from Stortford; and lying between Hatfield-forest and Stansted, gives its name to the latter place. There are in the neighbourhood some remains of names, such as the Saxons gave to what was Roman.

A lane leading from Wallbury to Hallingbury-street, in the direct way to Stane-street, is called Port-lane, and the adjacent lands Port-lane-fields. In Beggar's-hall-coppice, on the forest, in the way to Stane-street, there is a small spot of ground called

Alice, wife of sir Henry Parker, lord Morley; she died in 1506. Agnes Parker, grandmother of sir Henry Parker, lord Morley, 1440.

Charities. Charities.—The interest of twenty pounds is distributed yearly among the labourers; by whom given is not known: also, a rent-charge of fourteen shillings yearly, out of an estate near Tile-kiln-green.

* Gough's Camden, vol. ii. p. 63.

† In a suit, the prior of Bermondsey plaintiff, and John de Bergo impleadant, seventh Edward the first, the name is written Alynbyr.

Porting-hills, and Portingbury-hills: and near this there are traces of a large circular entrenchment. In the convention between the abbey of Colchester and the rector of this parish in 1296, before Richard de Gravesend,* we have the Saxon name for a Roman way, which is yet called **Hallingbury-street**: the rector was to receive the tithes, una cum terris et tenementis quas Egedius de le Strate tenuit de dictis Abbate et conventu in villâ de Hallinburge.†

This parish, in 1821, contained six hundred and seventy-eight, and, in 1831, six hundred and ninety-five inhabitants.

LITTLE HALLINGBURY.

This parish lies southward from Great Hallingbury, and has been called Hallingbury Nevill, and Hallingbury Bouchier: it is twenty-eight miles from London.

Little
Halling-
bury.

In the time of the Confessor, these lands belonged to a freeman named Godric, to Godid, a free woman, and to Esgar; and to Suene of Essex, and Geoffrey de Magnaville, at the survey. There are two manors.

The chief manor-house is a mile distant from the church, south-eastward. Henry de Essex, the descendant of Suene, and hereditary standard-bearer of England, forfeiting his estates by his cowardice, in 1611, this was given, by Henry the second, to Henry de Cornhill, who had a park at Hallingbyri; and his daughter and heiress Joan, conveyed it to her husband, Hugh de Nevill, who died in 1222, and was succeeded by Jollan; John, who died in 1245; Hugh, and John de Nevill; which last had leave, in 1277, to take into his park here the wood of Corringhall: he died in 1282: there is no evidence that sir Hugh Nevill, who died in 1335, had this estate; but it was settled on sir John Nevill, of Essex, and Alesia his wife, in 1357, for their joint lives; remainder to William de Bohun, earl of Northampton. Sir John died in 1358, and his widow in 1394; the earl of Northampton having previously died in 1360; and his son, Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, died in 1372, leaving, by his lady Joan, daughter of Richard Fitzallan, earl of Arundel, his co-heiresses, Eleanor, married to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester; and Mary, to Henry de Bolingbroke, afterwards king Henry the fourth.‡

Little
Halling-
bury Hall.

* Newcourt's Repertorium, p. 295, vol. ii.

† Salmon's History of Essex. It has been observed, that more pains have been taken by antiquaries to trace out Roman ways and stations in Essex, than in any other county in England, but that they seldom agree in their accounts; hence it seems proper in some instances to give the reasonings of authors who adopt opposite opinions.

‡ Anne, one of the daughters, and ultimately sole heiress of Eleanor and Thomas of Woodstock, was married successively to Thomas, and to his brother Edmund, both earls of Stafford, and afterwards to William Bouchier, earl of Eu: in 1421, she being at that time the widow of Edmund, earl of Stafford, a partition was made of the Bohun estates, between her and king Henry the fifth, on which this manor fell to her share, and descended to her son, Henry Bouchier, who died in 1483, Henry, his son, in 1540,

BOOK II.

Church.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a plain small building, the nave and chancel of one pace; it has a square tower, with a shingled spire.*

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to four hundred and seventy, and, in 1831, to four hundred and eighty-three.

and to his only daughter and heiress Anne, in 1541, married to sir William Parr, marquis of Kendal, afterwards earl of Essex and marquis of Northampton. Her heir was sir Walter Devereux, viscount Hereford, great grandson of John Devereux, lord Ferrers and Chartley, advanced to the title of earl of Essex in 1572, and constituted earl marshal of Ireland: he died at Dublin in 1576: Robert Devereux, his son and heir, the unfortunate earl of Essex, previous to his decapitation in 1602, had alienated this estate, which became the property of Thomas Sutton, esq. who settled it upon the charter-house in London. His first intention was to build his hospital here, in a field south of the manor-house, near the road from Ongar to Stane-street, for which he obtained an act of parliament in the ninth of James the first.

* Pious gifts.—Some person unknown left an annuity of thirty shillings for the decoration of the church; and almshouses for three dwellers near the church originally for the entertainment of poor persons on their marriage.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN THE HALF HUNDRED OF HARLOW. .

R. Rectory.

V. Vicarage.

C. Chapelry.

+ Discharged from payment of First Fruits.

Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Institution.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Hallingbury, Grt. R.	Middlesex.	A. A. Cotton	1812	£22 0 0	J. A. Houlton, esq.
Hallingbury, Lit. R.	J. Stuart	1812	15 0 0	Gov. of Charter-hou.
Harlow, V.	Ch. Miller	1832	15 7 11	Marquis of Dute.
Hatfield Bd. Oak, V.	John Carr.	1814	+ 7 11 0	Trinity Col. Camb.
Latton, V.	Jos. Arkwright	1820	7 0 0	— Arkwright, esq.
Matching, V.	C. S. Miller.	1825	12 10 5½	{ Trustees of Felsted-school, on nomination of Bp. of Lond.
Netteswell, C.	Thomas Field.	1821	13 6 8	Charles Phelips, esq.
Parndon, Great, R.	John Johnson.	1784	16 10 7½	{ Hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley.
Parndon, Little, R.	Nash Kemble	1812	+ 6 0 0	William Smith, esq.
Roydon, V.	J. P. Wright.	1831	+ 12 0 0	{ Hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley.
Sheering, R.	Edward Brown	1824	13 13 4	Christ Church, Oxon.

CHAPTER XI.

HUNDRED OF ONGAR.

FROM the hundred of Dunmow, and part of Harlow, Ongar hundred extends southward to Becontree and Havering Bower; and from the half hundred of Waltham and Harlow on the west, to Chafford, Barnstaple, and Chelmsford: its greatest length from north to south is fourteen miles, and its breadth seven from east to west. This hundred is convenient and pleasant in its situation, and plentifully supplied with water by the river Rodon, which passes through the midst of it. The heavier lands are intermixed with a loamy soil on gravel, which is excellent; and around the towns of Ongar there is abundance of rich grass-land.

Hundred
of Ongar.

This hundred, originally at the king's disposal, was granted, by Henry the second, to Richard de Lucy, who had also the honour and castle of Ongar. It was given in marriage with Maud, sister of Herbert de Lucy, to John de Ripariis, or Rivers: this lady died in 1243, and her grandson, John de Rivers, held it of the king as of his crown, at the time of his decease in 1294. John de Rivers, in 1336, enfeoffed John de Havering and his heirs in this hundred; and, in 1339, granted it, with all its rights and liberties, to sir John de Sutton, of Theydon Mount and Wivenhoe: and he, in 1348, enfeoffed Ralph, lord Stafford, and his heirs, "in this hundred of Aungre, with letes, views of frankpledge, and sheriff's turns belonging to it," which was holden of the king in capite, in free socage, without any payment: he died in 1372, holding this possession, which descended to his posterity, earls of Stafford and dukes of Buckingham, till 1521, when, on the attainder of Edward, it reverted to the crown. King Henry the eighth granted it to Richard lord Rich, who died in 1566, and it was retained by his posterity, till, on the partition of the family estates, it was allotted to sir Henry St. John, who sold it to Philip Traherne, esq. of whom it was purchased by sir Eliab Harvey, from whom it passed to his descendants, of Chigwell. This hundred contains the following twenty-six parishes: Cheping Ongar, High Ongar, Norton Mandeville, Fifield, Roding Beauchamp, Roding Abbess, Laver High, Laver Magdalen, Laver Little, Moreton, Shelley, Bobbingworth, North Weald, Greensted, Stanford Rivers, Theydon Mount, Theydon Gernon, Theydon Bois, Loughton, Chigwell, Lambourn, Stapleford Tany, Stapleford Abbots, Navestock,

BOOK II. Kelvedon Hatch, and Stondon. The parishes of Chigwell, Loughton, and Lambourn, are within the forest; those of Theydon Bois and Navestock, partly in and partly out of the forest; the rest are all out of the forest.*

CHEPING ONGAR.

Cheping
Ongar.

This ancient market-town has retained its Saxon appellation of Treaping, significant of its being the place where things are to be purchased or bought. In records the name is Angre, Angria, Aungre, Ongre; in Domesday, Angra: from its ancient castle it has also been named Ongar de Castrum.

* Some lands in this hundred, and in that of Harlow, were holden by the service of finding two men to watch with the wardstaff; of keeping the wardstaff; and of paying ward silver, and doing white service at the wardstaff. The design of this ceremony is understood to have been to represent the king's person, and to keep the king's peace. The following account of it is from a manuscript written in the time of John Stoner, of Loughton, who had a grant of the hundred for his life, in the thirty-fourth year of Henry the eighth; the services and rents are stated to have been such as were executed, done, paid, used, observed, and kept, not only in the time of Edward the third, and Robert Bruce, sometime king of Scots, but also in the time of his noble progenitors, kings of England long before, when the Saxons inhabited this realm, as manifestly may appear by ancient records thereof made by Humphrey de Bohun, then earl of Hereford and Essex, and constable of England, lord of the said hundred, dated at Pleshey, the tenth day of July, in the eleventh year of the reign of the same king Edward; as also by divers other ancient and sundry notable records, the same remaining written in the Saxon tongue.

“The order of the gathering and yearly making of the wardstaff of the king, &c.

“First, the bailiffe of the said libtie, or hundr, shall gather and yearly make the said wardstaffe of some willow bough growing in Abbasse Rothing-wood, the Sunday next before Hock-Munday, which shall contain in length iii qrters of a yard, and viii inches round in compasse or thereabout. And hee shall convey the same ymmediately unto the mannor place of Ruckwood Hall, in Abbasse Roding afores'd, where the lord of the said manor for the tyme being shall reverently the same receive into his house, and shall rowle itt upp in a faire fine linnen cloth, or towell, and so lay it upon some pillowe or cushion on a table or cubberd standing in the chiefe or highest place in the hall of the said manor place, there to remaine untill the said bailiffe shall have relieved and refreshed himself. And when the said bailiffe shall see convenient tyme to dep'te, he shall convey the same staffe by sunne shining unto Wardhatch-Lane besides Long-Barnes in Roothing aforesaid, when and where the said lord of Ruckwood-Hall and all and everie other tennant and tennants, land-owners, which by reason of their tenure doe hould their lands likewise by service royall, to watch and warde the said staff there upon convenient summons and warning to be given unto them yearly by the said lord of Ruckwood-Hall for the time being, with their full ordinarie number of able men well harnished with sufficient weapons shall attend. Where uppon the lord of Ruckwood-Hall shall then and there yearly at his p'per costs and charges, have readie prepared a great rope, called a barr, with a bell hanging on the end of the same, which he shall cause to be extended overthwart the said lane, as the custom hath beene, to stay and arrest such people as would pass by. Att the end of which said barr, not farr from the said bell, shall be laid downe reverently the said staffe upon a pillowe, or cushion, on the ground; which done, forthwith the said bailiffe shall severally call the names of all the aforesaid tennants, land-owners, who shall present their said ordinarie number of men accordingly. Then shall the said bailiffe in the king our soveraigne lord's name straightlie charge and comand them and everie of them to watch and keep the ward in due silence, soe that the king be harmless and the countrie scapeless, untill the sunne arising, when good houre shall be for the said lord



The town is situated on rising ground, with pleasant prospects, and consists chiefly of one street, in which there are numerous good houses; it is on the river Rodon, over which there is a bridge of three arches. The market was formerly on Tuesdays, but is now on Saturdays; it has been lately much improved, and the market-house

of Ruckwood-Hall to reparaire unto the said staffe, who in the presence of the whole watch, shall take the same staffe into his hand, and shall make uppon the upper rind of the same with a knife a score or notch, as a marke or token, declaring their loyall service done for that year in this behalf. And soe shall deliver the said staffe unto the bailiffe, sending it unto the lord, or land-owner, of the mannor of Fiffeild, or unto the tenant resiant, saying this notable narracon of the wardstaffe hereafter written in the Saxon tongue; which done, they may hale up the said barr, and depart at their pleasure.

“ The tale of the wardstaffe :—

“ Iche ayed the staffe by leue.
Yane stoffe Iche toke by leue
By leue Iche will tellen
How the staffe have I got
Yotlie staffe to me com
As he houton for to don
Faire and well iche him underfingt
As iche houton for to don
All iche ther on challenged
That theareon was for to challenge
Nameliche this and this
And all that thear was for to challenge
Fayer iche him upp dede
As iche houton for to don
All iche warnyd to the ward to cum
That thereto houton for to cum
By sunne shining
We our roope thedgr brouton
A roope celtan as we houton for to don
And there waren and wakedon

And the ward soe kept
That the king was harmless
And the country scapeless
And a morn when itt day was
And the sun arisen was
Faiër honour waren to us toke
Als us houton for to don
Fayre on the staffe wee scorden
As we houton for to don
Fayre we him senden
Hether we howen for to sende
And zif thear is any man
That this witt siggen can
Iche am here ready for to don
Ayens himself iche one
Yother mind him on
Yender midtyyn feren
Als we ther waren.
Sir by leave take this staffe
This is the tale of the wardstaffe.

“ The Munday following, called Hock-Munday, the said staffe shall be presented yearly unto the lord and owner of the manor of Fiffeild for the time being, or his resident, who shall ymmediately unfold the clothes it is wrapped in, that it may appear by the score made thereon how the aforesaid lord, of Ruckwood-Hall and other tenants, which by reason of their tenures of their lands, owe suite and service to watch the said staffe at Abbass-Roding aforesaid have done their watch and service royall accordingly the night before. Then shall he clothe it again, lay it in order, and use it in every degree as the lord of Ruckworth-Hall hath done. This is called Abbas-Rothing watch; and is kept at the cross, with a hand, at the Three Wants, in Fiffeild.

“ Stondon watch : Tuesday following the staffe is carried to the lord of the manor of Nash Hall, in High Ongar, and the watch is kept at Horrelsford, als. Hallsford. Navestock watch : Wednesday following the same is yearly presented to the lord of the manor of Loft-Hall, in Navestock : the watch is kept in Three-Wants-Lane. Stapleford-Abbots watch : Thursday following the staffe is presented to the lord of Battels-Hall, the watch to be kept at Passingford-bridge. Lamborne watch : Friday following the said staffe shall be yearly presented to the lord of the manor of Lamborne-Hall : the watch to be kept at the Cross, in the middle of the town of Abridge. Chigwell watch : Sunday following the staffe shall be pre-

BOOK II. repaired; it has an annual fair on the thirtieth of September. Distant from Romford twelve, and from London twenty-one miles.

Castle.

Previous to the Conquest, this lordship belonged to Ailid, and to a freeman; at the survey it was holden in demesne by Eustace, earl of Boulogne; the part that had belonged to the freeman having been given to Ralph Baynard. From the earl this estate descended to his third son, also named Eustace, and earl of Boulogne, whose daughter Maud conveyed it, in marriage, to Stephen, earl of Blois, afterwards king of England; and his son William, earl of Mortain and Surrey, gave it to Richard de Lucy,* lord of Disce, in Norfolk, who had with it Greensted, Stanford Rivers, Rodings, and Christhall, to hold by the service of three knights' fees. This nobleman had the lordship made an honour, on which several knights' fees were dependant; and he built a castle here, on the top of a very high artificial hill, surrounded by a deep and broad moat, which, with other considerable works, formed the old fortification, large remains of which are yet to be seen. Mr. Gough supposes the castle to have been formed out of more ancient and extensive works, either of Roman or Saxon origin: its distinguishing name of Cheping is undoubted evidence of its importance under the Saxons, and the foundations of Roman buildings have been dug up in the church-yard. The moat which surrounded the keep is generally filled with water, and the sides of the mount planted with trees and shrubs, through which a steep winding walk leads to the summit, where the chief part of the building stood: these becoming ruinous, were pulled down by William Morice, in the reign of queen Elizabeth; and on the site he erected a brick building three stories high. In 1744, Edward Alexander, esq. was the proprietor of the estate; and pulling down this erection, had a handsome summer-house built in its stead, rising to a considerable height, with an elegant apartment and a dome: this has also become a ruin. From this eminence, an open country, widely extended, presents interesting views in every direction; the churches and villages of High Ongar Stondon, and Norton Mandeville, are seen on the east; Good, and High Easter, and part of the Rodings, with Fifield and its church, constitute an interesting prospect northward; Bobbingworth, Moreton, Greensted,

sent to the land-owners of Loughborough: the watch kept at the Cross, against the church. Theydon Gernon watch: Monday following the staffe to be presented to the lord of the manor of Gaynes Park Hall: the watch kept at Webbs-Cross, in Theydon Gernon. Moreton watch: Tuesday following the said staffe shall be presented to the lord of the manor of Blake-Hall: watch kept in the midst of the town of Moreton. Maudlin-Laver watch: Wednesday following the staffe shall be presented yearly to the lord of the manor of High Laver: watch at Poole-Lane-end in Maudlin Laver." The ceremony in each parish the same as in Abbasse-Rothling, where the ceremony began, and at the extremity of the hundred, proceeding to Chigwell, the other extreme, and returning to High Laver, in the neighbourhood of Ruckwood-Hall. To conclude, this wardstaffe was to be carried through the towns and hundreds of Essex, to a place called Atte Wode, and to be there thrown into the sea.

* Being governor of Falaise, in Normandy, he distinguished himself by his brave defence of that place against the attacks of Geoffrey, earl of Anjou.



with the handsome seat of Forest-hall, are seen on the west; and, on the south, Kelvedon and its church, with Navestock, and numerous gentlemen's seats, present beautiful scenes.

Richard de Lucy was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1156; in 1162, justice of England, and lord-lieutenant of the kingdom during the absence of king Henry the first in Normandy, in 1166. He founded the priory of Leases in Kent, where he entered himself as a canon regular, and where he died and was buried, in 1179, in the chapter-house. By his wife Rohaise, he had Geoffrey and Herbert; also Maud, married to Walter Fitz-Robert, progenitor of the noble family of Fitz-Walter, to whom she conveyed the lordship of Disce; and Rohaise, married to Fulbert de Dover, lord of Chilham, in Kent. Geoffrey, the elder, and also Herbert, the younger son of Richard de Lucy, dying without surviving offspring, Rohaise, their sister, upon paying a fine to the king in 1207, had livery of the whole barony, to which she had an hereditary right. In 1242, this manor was in possession of Maud de Lucy, but supposed not to have been the daughter of Robert de Lucy; this lady having been given in marriage by king John, to Richard de Rivers in 1213, from whose descendant John de Rivers, it passed, with the hundred, to sir John de Sutton, from whom it was conveyed to Ralph lord Stafford.*

In 1541, king Henry the eighth granted this manor to George Harper, who, in 1543, sold it to William Morice, esq. son of John Morice, of Roydon;† in whose family it continued till by female heirs it was conveyed to sir Fulk Greville; and

* His son Hugh held this among other estates, at the time of his decease in 1386; as did his son Thomas, earl of Stafford, in 1392, and also William and Edmund, brothers of Thomas, who died in 1398 and 1403: and Humphrey, son of Edmund, created duke of Buckingham in 1414, had this manor; and being slain at the battle of Northampton in 1460; and Humphrey, his eldest son, having lost his life at the battle of St. Alban's in 1455, he was succeeded by his grandson Henry, earl of Stafford, who was beheaded in 1483, for attempting to dethrone king Richard the third, when his estates became forfeited to the crown.

† William Morice, by his wife Anne, daughter of — Isaack, of Kent, had James Morice, his successor, who died in 1558 holding this manor, the mansion of Bansons, and other possessions, by knight's service; his eldest son and heir was also named James; he was of the Middle Temple: recorder, and member of parliament for the borough of Colchester, in the 27th, 28th, 31st, and 35th of queen Elizabeth: besides the family estates, he had Parson's-acre, and the manor of Suttons, in this county: on his decease in 1596, he left by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of George Medley, besides other children, his son and heir John Morice, esq. who married Katharine, daughter and sole heiress of sir Gabriel Pointz, who brought him a considerable estate. Sir John, the eldest son, took the surname of Pointz, and dying in 1618, was succeeded by his son sir James, who died in 1623; and Richard, his son, dying without issue, the estate descended to his two sisters, Anne, married to sir Fulk Greville; and Elizabeth, to William Duncomb, esq. of Batten-den, in Bedfordshire.—Arms of Morice: Argent, a fesse between three martlets, gules. On a chief, sable, three foxes' heads erased, argent.—Arms of Morice, alias Pointz: Azure, three men's heads, couped at the shoulders, each having a snake twisted round the neck vert: on a fesse, or, a cock between two pheons, gules. Crest: On a torse or and azure, a cock gules, comb and legs or, having in his bill a snake wound about his neck.

BOOK 11. William Duncomb, esq. of Battedden, in Bedfordshire, who sold it to sir Thomas Whitmore; whose son, sir William, sold it to Thomas Goldsburgh, of Ongar; of the family of that name, of Dorsetshire, and of Goldsburgh, in Yorkshire: by his wife, Elizabeth Alexander, he had Thomas; Elizabeth (married to Richard Turner, esq. by whom she had Dorothy), and Elizabeth, wife of sir John Bull, a Turkey-merchant, and sheriff of London in 1718. Thomas Goldsburgh, esq. the son, married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of Jernegan Chaplin, esq. of Finchlingfield, by whom he had Thomas: his second wife was Susan Havers.

Edward, son of Nicholas Alexander, of Marden-Ash, in High Ongar, was the next purchaser of this estate; he was a proctor in Doctors' Commons, and died in 1751: having married Levina, daughter of sir Levinus Bennet, of Babraham, in Cambridge-shire, he had by her Bennet Alexander, esq. who, in conformity to the will of his aunt, Mrs. Judith Bennet, assumed the surname of Bennet; and marrying Mary, daughter of Mr. Benjamin Ash, of Ongar, had by her a son, named Richard Henry Alexander, who married Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Peter Burrell, esq. Bennet Alexander, on his decease, in 1745, left also Levina, his daughter, married to John Luther, esq. M.P., of Kelvedon Hatch.

The mansion of the estate called the Castle-farm, is a good old brick house near the castle. The manor of Cheping Ongar belongs to lady Louisa Harvey.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Martin, is a small neat structure, and has many Roman bricks worked into its walls; the original windows are singularly small, more resembling the loop-holes of a castle than the windows of a church.*

The living is a rectory appendant to the manor, and being of small value, the neighbouring church of Greensted was united to it, in the reign of king Edward the sixth; but this union did not long continue; and the living of Ongar, in 1721, was, by the exertions of the rev. — Houlton, rector of Bobbingworth, augmented by two hundred pounds of queen Anne's bounty, one hundred pounds of Mr. Edward Colston's benefaction, and one hundred and nine pounds two shillings contributed by himself.

This parish, in 1821, contained seven hundred and sixty-eight, and in 1831, seven hundred and ninety-eight inhabitants.

* Gough's Camden, vol. ii. p. 51.

Monu-
mental
inscrip-
tions.

† Monumental inscriptions.—A mural monument in the south aisle bears a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation: "Underneath this place lieth Nicholas Alexander, gentleman, of Marden-Ash; a good, honest, and pious man; a dutiful son and true friend of the church of England: he had one wife, Johannah; a pious, chaste, and prudent woman, daughter of Stephen Smyth, esq. of Smyth's Hall, in the parish of Blackmore, in the county of Essex, with whom he lived fifty years and upwards, in faithful wedlock and conjugal affection. His surviving children were William, Edward, Thomas, Henry, Anne, Margaret, and Johannah. He died on the 20th of July, 1714, in the eighty-third year of his age."

There is an inscription to the memory of Joseph King, the donor of a valuable charity to this parish, who died in 1679.

A black marble within the communion rails bears the following: "Hic jacet Jana D. Oliveri Cromwellii,

HIGH ONGAR.

• This is of greater extent than the other parish of Ongar, yet it has sometimes been named Little; it has also been named Old, and High Ongar; the village is not large, but the greatest length of the parish, from Weald-bridge to Norton-heath, is eight miles. Distance from Epping eight, and from London twenty-five miles.

High
Ongar.

In the time of Edward the confessor, a part of this parish belonged to Leuric; and at the survey, to John, son of Waleram, whose under-tenant was Roger de Ramis: the other part was called Passefeld, and both before and after the Conquest belonged to Waltham abbey. That which belonged to Leuric, has since been divided into six manors.

This chief manor, at the time of the survey, comprehended the greater part of the parish; the quantity being three virgates, and at that time rated as one manor, seems to indicate that it consisted chiefly of woodland. After Waleram, the next possessor was William de Moncell, or Monceux, in the reign of Henry the second; he held it by the sergeancy of being marshal of the barony of Gilbert de Thany; and is supposed to have had this estate in marriage with a daughter or descendant of John de Waleram. William de Monceux is said to have obtained from Henry the third, in 1220, the grant of a fair, to be holden annually, on the 7th and 8th of September.

Manor of
High
Ongar.

Finchingbrochiensis, é sedibus Huntingtoniensis, eques Balneensis, filia, uxor Tobia Pallavicini Armigeri, ex illustri Nominis illius in agro Cantabrigiensi familia oriundi, ad quadragesimum ætatis annum et ferme tertium pertingens, quod mortale fuit in illa officio vitaq. functa in hoc pulvere deposuit xxiii Martii, Annoq. Christi 1637."—In English: "Here lies Jane, daughter of the lord Oliver Cromwell, of Finchingbrook, in Huntingdonshire, knight of the Bath. She was wife of Tobias Pallavicine, esq. of the illustrious family of that name in Cambridgeshire. Having arrived at nearly the forty-third year of her age, and having finished her duty as well as life, she deposited her mortal part in this dust, on the 23d of March, and in the year of Christ 1637."

Near this is the following: "Here lies the body of that truly noble and religious gentleman, Horatio Pallavicine, esq. who died May 6, 1648, aged thirty-six."

There are also epitaphs on the following persons: "Jane, the beloved wife of Godfrey Jones, schoolmaster and rector of Ongar, who died the 5th of January, 1717, aged thirty-one. Also, of the said Godfrey, who died the 14th of August, 1733, aged forty-eight.—Thomas Velley, M.A., late rector of this parish, who died Nov. 28, 1750, aged forty-seven. Also, two of his children, and his mother, late wife of Thomas Velley, esq. of Marden-Ash."

Charity.—Joseph King, born in this parish, gave five houses in Ongar, to be managed by feoffees, and out of the rents ten pounds yearly, to be paid to a schoolmaster for teaching six poor boys till fit to be put out apprentices; one to be put out yearly, and five pounds given with him: if in the year none be fit to go out, then eight pounds to be given the year following with a boy properly qualified: and should at any time one of the scholars be found qualified for the university, five pounds to be given with him for four years, and no apprentice to be put out during that time. Forty shillings to be given yearly for teaching girls to read: twenty shillings to purchase bibles for poor families, and for books of devotion: ten shillings yearly for a dinner on Tuesday in Whitsun-week; and four shillings to the clerk for keeping the inscription clean.

Charity.

BOOK II.

Astelyns.

The manor of Astelyns is also named Gapps, from a hamlet of that name; part of it extends into Bobbingworth and North-weald. The ancient mansion was surrounded by a moat, within a park of more than a hundred acres; the Lodge is in Bobbingworth. The unfortunate Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, was for a time concealed here, when charged with high treason, for acceding to the proposal of marrying Mary queen of Scots.

In 1475, Walter Writtel held this manor, which descended to his son William, and whose widow, Katharine Hawte, re-married to John Green, enjoyed it till her decease, in 1493. John Writtel died possessed of it in 1507: as did also William Ayliff, esq. in 1517. It was afterwards purchased by Dr. Baldwin Hamsey, of the college of physicians, in London, who, in 1672, settled it on that institution. The estate contains three hundred and thirty-seven acres.

Forest Hall.

Forest Hall, formerly named Folyats, is a handsome brick mansion, about three quarters of a mile from the church, northward. Formerly this estate belonged to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, till it came into the possession of Henry the eighth, who, in 1544, granted it to William Riggs, and Leonard Brown, who in the same year conveyed it to sir Richard Rich, and he, in 1562, sold it to Richard Stane, and his son of the same name: the father died in 1600, holding this estate of the queen, by knight's service. His son and heir, Richard Stane, LL.D. died in 1614, and was succeeded by his son John; and by Richard Stane, esq. who erected the elegant family mansion: he died in 1714, leaving by his wife, daughter of Dr. John Gawden, bishop of Worcester, his son and heir, William Stane, esq. who married Alice, daughter of sir Thomas Abdy, bart. of Felix Hall, by whom he had William Stane, esq. It now belongs to the rev. John Bramston Stane.

Chevers.

The mansion of the manor of Chevers is on the side of a hill, a mile eastward from the church. In 1484, this estate was holden of Jasper, duke of Bedford, by John Stalbroke; succeeded by his son Matthew: William Pawne was in possession of it in 1524, and dying in 1570, left his son William; on whose decease without issue, in 1578, it became the inheritance of Bridget, wife of William Chatterton, daughter of Roger Bassingborn, by Anne his wife, sister to the first William Pawne. John Austin, on his decease in 1633, had this estate, and was succeeded by his son James; and afterwards Philip Holeman had this estate, succeeded by William Stane, esq. to whose descendants it now belongs.

Newarks.

The manor of Newarks is partly in this parish, and partly in that of Norton, in which the manor-house stands; it belongs to the Stane family.

Ashe Hall.

Ashe Hall is a quarter of a mile east of the church, by a brook. John, son and heir of sir William Frenles, held this manor of Hugh, earl of Stafford; and on his death, in 1378, was succeeded by his brother, William de Frenles. No records have been preserved of the successive owners of this estate, till the reign of king James the first,

when it belonged to sir Thomas Mildmay, *knt.* of Springfield Barnes, who held it by the name of Nashall, with other possessions in the Ongars, in Norton Mandeville, and Shelley. On his decease, in 1612, he was succeeded by his grandson, Thomas Mildmay, *esq.* It afterwards belonged to Mr. Thomas Wallenger, and to Peter Champion, *esq.* of Croydon. CHAP.
XI.

The manor of Wetherspane belonged to Alexander Holman in 1614; and was holden under him by Dr. Stane: it afterwards belonged to Mr. William Baker, and to his son, Bramston Baker: it belongs now to the rev. John Bramston Stane. Wethers-
pane.

The manor of Ongar Park is not in this parish, yet belongs to it; it is separated from it by Greensted and Bobbingworth. After Monceaux, the next recorded possessor was Andrew de Walden, who died in 1352; his son Thomas, by his wife Joan, was his successor; on whose decease, in 1420, it went to Thomas Bataile, son of his sister Alice, and Alianore, his wife, daughter of Thomas Ondeby, and their heirs: in 1439, on his decease, his heir was his son John, whose son of the same name succeeded in 1473: Richard Bataile, supposed his son, died in 1540, and his heirs were his two sisters, Constance (wife of William Ferne), Margery Butler; and Richard Kighley, a third sister's son. The next recorded possessor was Humphrey Shelton, *esq.* who died in 1605, and was succeeded by his son William: it afterwards belonged to William Minshull, *esq.* who sold it to sir Thomas Webster, of Copped Hall; who sold it to Aaron Frank, *esq.* This estate at present belongs to Capel Cure, *esq.* Ongar
Park.

The manor of Passelow, or Passfield, was one of the seventeen lordships given by earl Harold to Waltham abbey; and after its dissolution, was granted, in 1541, to George Harper, who the same year conveyed it to sir Richard Rich, from whom it descended to his posterity, earls of Warwick; and on the partition of their estates, became the property of the earl of Manchester; of whom it was purchased by sir Josiah Child, and descended to the right hon. John earl Tilney; and now belongs to the hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley. Passelow

The church is entered by a very handsome Norman semicircular arch, under a wooden south porch, above which the date (1640) is inscribed; it is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and of one spacious pace, as is also the chancel; on the lofty arched roof, clouds, stars, and the rising sun were represented by paintings of a superior description; and there is a very elegant altar-piece: a wooden spire rises above a square tower, also of wood, and containing five bells.* Church.

In 1821, this parish contained one thousand one hundred and twenty-six, and in 1831, one thousand two hundred and five inhabitants.

* Monumental inscriptions.—A mural marble monument bears the following inscription: "Near this place lies the body of Richard Stane, *esq.* who departed this life January the 15th, 1714, aged eighty-four years. Upon the restoration of king Charles the second, he was made justice of the peace, and captain of the horse. He married Anne, daughter of the right reverend John Gauden, lord bishop of Worcester, by whom he had issue, William and Rachel, twins. The above William Stane, married Alice, youngest Monu-
mental
inscrip-
tions.

BOOK II.

NORTON MANDEVILLE.

Norton
Mande-
ville.

This parish is supposed to have been named Norton, as lying northward from Ongar; and to distinguish it from Cold Norton, in Dengy hundred, it has been named Norton Mandeville. It contains only a small number of houses, and the inhabitants are almost exclusively engaged in agricultural pursuits. Distance from Epping eight, and from London twenty-five miles.

Before the Conquest, a part of this estate was in possession of Gotil; the other portion belonged to a female proprietor named Godid; and, at the survey, the whole belonged to Hamo Dapifer, whose under-tenant was Wimund: hence the two manors of this parish.

In 1190, John de Dammartin held this estate under Ralph de Diceto, the dean, and the canons of St. Paul's; and after her husband's decease, his widow Galiena had for her second husband Ralph Mandeville; and she gave some lands here to her son, Robert Mandeville. In 1480, this manor belonged to Thomas Danvers, esq. and was in the same year purchased by Merton College, Oxford.

Newarks,
Norton.

Newarks manor extends into the parish of High Ongar, and the house is eastward from the church about a mile. There is no record to inform us of the proprietors of this estate till the time of Henry the eighth, who, in 1542, granted it to John Williams and Anthony Stringer, who the same year conveyed it to sir Richard Rich; and it was in possession of John Waylett at the time of his decease in 1576, who held it of the queen by knight's service: he was succeeded by his son of the same name, who dying in 1612, left it to his son, John Waylett. It afterwards became the property of the Stane family, of Forest Hall, and belongs to the rev. J. B. Stane.

Church.

The church is a plain building, with a small wooden spire: it is dedicated to All

daughter of sir Thomas Abdy, bart. of Easterford Kelvedon, in Essex; by whom he had issue four sons and two daughters. He departed this life March 11, 1727, aged sixty-five years."

On a marble slab on the ground: "In memory of Francis Spendlove, who died in infancy, April 4, 1766."

The following inscription is on a black marble, in the chancel: "When a general confusion, ushered in by a pretended Reformation, had buried the Protestant religion, and the liberty of the subject, under the ruins of church and state, he left a sad and serious warning to all posterity, how they opposed the king and the bishops again; then was this house of bondage happily exchanged for an heavenly Canaan, by Richard Carter, October 26, 1659."

Charities.

Charities.—John Wyberd, citizen and haberdasher, of London, gave fifty shillings yearly, to buy bread for the poor of this parish for ever, payable out of the King's Head inn, at Kerton, in Lincolnshire.—Mrs. Alice Thompson's benefaction to eight poor widows, five shillings each yearly, to buy them waistcoats.—Mr. Waller, out of a farm called Farrows, gave ten shillings yearly.—In 1611, the rev. Dr. Tabor, rector of this parish, founded and endowed an alms-house of six tenements, with the sum of ten pounds per annum for ever; payable out of a farm called Westwick, in the parish of Bradwell, in this county.—In 1722, William Peacock, gave twenty shillings yearly to the poor, out of the rents of a cottage called King's Ridden. This gift is distributed every Christmas-day by the churchwardens.

Saints.* The rectory and great tithes were given to the nunnery of St. Leonards, at Bromley, in Middlesex, by Galiena de Dammartin, and confirmed by her son and her second husband; and Robert de Burgate, and Galiena his wife, gave all the tithes out of his wood called Alewode, &c. to the same appropriation. This rectory, in 1540, was granted to sir Ralph Sadler, who conveyed it to William Pawne, esq. from whom it descended to his son William, and passed, as the manor of Chevers did, to Bridget Chatterton. In 1595, it belonged to Thomas Ellyot, who left it to his son of the same name, and it afterwards belonged to Mr. Nicholas. This curacy was augmented in 1743.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to one hundred and forty-one, and to one hundred and fourteen in 1831.

FIFIELD.

This parish extends northward from Norton Mandeville and Shelley to Beauchamp Roding, and from part of the hundred of Chelmsford on the east to Moreton and Bobbingworth westward. The name in records is^a Fyfhide, Fishide, Fyshide, and in Domesday Fifhide, supposed from the Saxon Fir, five, and hyde, a certain quantity of land. The circumference of the parish is estimated to be nearly eight miles: distant from Chelmsford ten, and from London twenty-five miles.

Brictnar, Alwin, Leuric, and Alestan, were the proprietors of the lands of this parish in the time of Edward the confessor; and they belonged to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, and John, son of Waleram, after the Conquest. The earl of Boulogne was lord paramount, but Waleram had the largest demesnes. There were three manors.

Pharin de Boulogne, and afterwards William de Fessues, or Fesnes, held Ffhyd of the honour of Boulogne, in the reign of Henry the second: Fifid is also at the same time mentioned, as among the fees of Oger de Curcon; and it was soon afterwards the property of the family surnamed De Tany, of Stapleford; successively passing to Hasculf de Tani, and his wife Maud; to Rainald; to his brother Grailand, or Gruel de Tani, who dying in 1179, was succeeded by Hasculf, and Gilbert de Tani, who died in 1220, leaving William de Faubourgh, Maud, wife of Adam de Legh, and Nicholas de Beauchamp his next heirs. The whole of this estate belonged to Nicholas de Beauchamp in 1331, and to John, son of John Hotham, of Bondeby,† at the time of his death in 1351; he was succeeded by his sisters and co-heiresses, Catharine and Alice. One of these are supposed to have conveyed this manor in marriage to Henry

* From an examination of documents of the date of 1181, Mr. Newcourt was led to the belief that Norton was originally a chapel of ease to High Ongar.—*Newcourt*, vol. ii. p. 439; *from the Register of the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's*.

† Bondelay occurs in Froissart's account of the treachery of king Richard the second, to his uncle, the duke of Gloucester, which is supposed to have been intended for the name of this ancient seat.—*Froissart*, l. iv. c. 33, 36.

BOOK II. lord Scrope, of Masham, for he died possessed of it at the time of his decease in 1392: his successors were his son, sir Stephen Scrope, whose widow Margery had this estate in jointure till her death in 1422, when (their eldest son Henry having forfeited his life in 1415, for his treachery to king Henry the fifth,) their second son, sir John Scrope, treasurer of the exchequer, succeeded to this and other estates; and dying in 1455, and Elizabeth, his lady, dying in 1466, their successor was their son, Thomas lord Scrope, who, on his death in 1475, left Thomas his heir and successor; Henry, Ralph, Geoffrey, Alice, Mary, and Elizabeth. This last Thomas lord Scrope married Elizabeth, daughter of John Neville, marquis Montacute, and died in 1493, leaving Alice, his only daughter, afterwards married to Henry lord Scrope, of Bolton. The widow was re-married to sir Henry Wentworth, and held Fifield manor till her decease in 1515, when the last lord Scrope having left only a daughter, and his three brothers dying without issue, his co-heiresses were his three sisters; Alice, married to Thomas Strangways, esq.; Mary, to sir Christopher Danby; and Elizabeth, to sir Ralph Fitz-Randolph.

In 1531, sir James Strangways had a portion of this estate; Marmaduke Wyvill, esq. having another share of it, in right of his wife Agnes, sister and co-heiress of John, son and heir of sir Ralph Fitz-Randolph. Christopher Wyvill was their son and heir, and, in 1536, he, with Agnes his wife, and Christopher their son, sold their purparty of this manor to sir Richard Rich, whose descendants, earls of Warwick, purchased the rest of the estate, which, on the death of Charles the last earl, came to the female descendants, and was purchased of the earl of Manchester by sir Josiah Child; and is the property of the hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley.*

Hérons. The manor-house of Herons is a mile south from the church; the estate was taken from the capital manor of Fifield Hall, and given to Lee's Priory, but by whom and at what time is not known. It was granted to sir Richard Rich in 1536, and afterwards became the property of the Brand family, of Pickerells, in this parish: to whom also belonged the large farm of John-Ash.

Lampetts. In the time of king Henry the fourth, Thomas Lampett was the possessor of this manor, which has been named from him. In 1473, Walter Writtel, of Bobbingworth, held it of Thomas Scroop, of Masham, which, in 1473, he, by his will, ordered to be given for the maintenance of an obit in Bobbingworth church; but this devisement seems not to have taken place, for his son and heir, John Writtel, esq. who died in 1507, held the estate as his father had done.† In 1750, John Collins, esq. died in possession of this estate, having made the manor-house, which is

* Mr. Horne, the present occupier of Fifield Hall estate, with the assistance of the neighbouring gentry, lately erected a commodious, substantial, and elegant bridge over the Rodon at Fifield; from plans and specifications by Mr. George Bridges, an eminent builder in London.

† Catharine Hawte, also named Grene, who died in 1493, seems to have had Walter Writtel for her second husband: she held this manor, and all the lands and tenements which had been Thomas Lampett's, with lands in "*Fyshyde*" and in Moreton, of the lord Scrope.—*Inq. ninth of Henry VII.* Nov. 10.

above half a mile west north-west from the church, the place of his residence: by Mary his wife, sister of Mr. Thomas Binkes, of Ongar, he left Mary, his only daughter, who conveyed this estate in marriage to the rev. — Wragg, rector of North Cadbury, in Somersetshire. CHAP.
XI.

Widney, or Whitney Green, is about half a mile eastward from the church: a capital mansion here was formerly the residence of George Pochin, esq. sheriff of the county in 1700. He was succeeded by his son John, who died in 1723.* Afterwards it belonged to — Major, who left two sons, William and Joseph: it also became the seat of the Barwick family. Whitney
Green.

Fifield church is one of the few remaining specimens of rural churches with the steeple in the centre, cathedralwise. It is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and has a nave, and two aisles covered, with arches supported by columns.† The original tower which Church.

* Arms of Pochin: Or, a chevron gules, between three horse-shoes, sable; at the top a crescent. Crest: A harpy, with a man's face, and wings expanded.

† Inscriptions: in the chancel, on a flat stone. "Johannes Brand, ar. obiit 23, Aug. 1717. Thomas Brand, esquire, who died 7th October, 1718." Inscrip-
tions.

"Here lieth the body of John Collins, of Lambpits, in this parish, esquire, who departed this life September 17th, 1750, in the 74th year of his age; he was a good and affectionate husband, father, and friend, and as he lived in the practice of every Christian virtue, so he met death with great composure of mind, from a stedfast hope of a joyful resurrection and the life everlasting. On the right-hand side lieth his wife, Mrs. Mary Collins, and their son John Collins, who died June 23d, 1731, in the 19th year of his age."

"Here lies the body of Mrs. Mary Collins, the wife of John Collins the younger, of this parish, gent. who lived virtuously and died much lamented, ye 9th of October, MDCCXIV, in ye xxxth year of her age."

"Here lieth the body of John Collins the elder, who departed this life the 19th of August, 1729, in ye 82d year of his age. Also, the body of Mary, his wife, who departed this life the 28th day of February, 1732, in ye 81st year of her age."

On a hatchment against the wall are these arms: Vert, a griffin segreant, or, impaling, gules a saltier, argent; on a chief of the second three lions' heads erased, of the field. Crest: On a wreath a griffin's head erased, or.

"Here lies ye late virtuous and lamented Mrs. Ann Beverley, who was born ye 13th August, 1680, and died September 27th, 1702; which Ann was ye eldest daughter of James, ye eldest son of Thomas Beverley, late of Gaynes Park, in the county of Huntington, esquire, and Ann his wife, ye daughter of Thomas Duncombe, of Broughton, in ye county of Bucks, esquire. The above-named Thomas Beverley and his wife Elizabeth lie interred on the left hand of this stone." Arms: In a lozenge a fesse dancettée between three leopard's faces.

"George Pochin, late of this parish, esq. who died June 16th, 1704, aged 70; his wife, who died in 1706, aged 60; and his son John, who died in 1725, aged 50.

In the church-yard, on a tomb inclosed within iron rails: "Within this monument is entombed the body of Edward Barwick, esq. of Widney Green, who died 17th of May, 1776, in the 79th year of his age."

On a gothic tomb within iron rails: "Beneath this tomb are deposited the remains of William Barwick, late of Widney Green, esq. who departed this life the 12th July, 1811, aged 80 years." Arms: three bears' heads erased muzzled

Charities.—John Collins, esq. of Lampetts, gave one shilling's worth of bread upon every Lord's day Charities.

BOOK II. arose between the nave and chancel, and contained five bells, fell down, and in its place a wooden substitute has been erected where the bells are deposited, and which is entered by a staircase of flints and Roman bricks, very strongly cemented together; on one of the bells is inscribed, "Sancta Catharina ora pro nobis." In the south wall of the chancel there are three arches rising above each other, supported by two columns of grey marble; and the eastern window is decorated with ancient carvings in stone.

In 1094, the tithes of this parish* were given to the monastery of Bermondsey, (with his lord's consent), by Roger de Tani, one of the knights of John Fitz-Waleran: this appropriation was confirmed in 1107 by Maud, wife of Asculph, and her son Graacild de Tany, who at the same time gave them this church, which grant was confirmed by the kings, Henry the first and second. Yet it was taken from them before they had secured the appropriation of the tithes to themselves, and the rectory has remained appendant to Fifield Hall manor.

Fifield, in 1821, contained five hundred and eighty-three, and, in 1831, five hundred and seventy-two inhabitants.†

for ever; and in order to secure the same, Mrs. Mary Collins, his daughter, left in trust a piece of arable land, formerly called Lamplands, now Osborn's Field, in Moreton: in the first place, by and out of the rents of this piece of ground, one shilling's worth of bread weekly to be distributed among the poor of this parish, as by the will is directed; and in the next place, the remainder of the said rents to be given to the said poor people, on Christmas-day, or within one week after for ever, 14th October, 1751.—Anthony Walker, D.D. rector of this parish from the year 1662 to 1692, by his last will and testament consecrated to the honour of God for ever, first, his lands called Old Frith, in the parish of High Ongar, containing about fifty-six acres, the rents arising to be thus disposed of:—To a schoolmaster eight pounds per annum, to teach the poor children of this parish, with one from High Ongar, and one from the Willingales, to read, write, and cast accompts, and to say their catechism. One pound per annum to buy books, paper, &c. for the poorest sort of children. One pound per annum to buy good English bibles, or other good books, for the use of the poor of this parish; to High Ongar for the same use, ten shillings per annum; and the same sum to Willingale, for the same purpose: one shilling to be given in bread every Lord's day, and on Christmas, to twelve poor men or women, who shall be actually at church, to oblige them to attend God's worship. Secondly, he gave two tenements in Fifield Street, called Bruetts, with their gardens, the larger for the residence of the schoolmaster, and the other for that of the church clerk, and ordered that the rest of the pasture adjoining should be applied in keeping the houses in repair. The aforesaid Dr. Walker gave a silver chalice, cup, and patine, to be used at the administration of the sacrament of our Lord's most holy supper.

* Decimas de Fyfhide.—*Monast.* vol. i. p. 640. In the foundation charter it is Decimam de Fyfhidre.—*Ib.* p. 642.

† In the year 1749, a great number of *Celts* were found in this parish, together with a large quantity of metal for casting them; and in a field called Stockling, between Fifield and Ongar, a coffin of hewn stone, with others of tiles, many skeletons, and various fragments of urns were discovered in 1767.—*Gough's Camden*, vol. ii. p. 51.—*Sepulch. Monuments*, vol. i. *Introduction*, p. xxiv.

RODING BEAUCHAMP.

CHAP.
XI.

Of the eight parishes named Roding, two are in Ongar hundred; and this, to which the distinguishing appellation of Beauchamp has been given, extends northward from Fifield to Abbot's Roding; and from Berners Roding, on the east, to High Laver: the lands are on the eastern extremity of the "crop and fallow" district.* Distant from Ongar five, and from London twenty-two miles.

Roding
Beau-
champ.

In the reign of Edward the confessor, this parish belonged to Lewin, and Eccius, and at the survey was in possession of Alan, earl of Bretagne, under whom it was holden by Alberic de Vere; and, in 1262, it was holden by William Beauchamp, of Bedford. There are two manors.

The manor-house of Long Barnes is a mile northward from the church, in a low situation: in 1328, Henry Biddock held this estate under the Vere family, who were lords here till the attainder of Robert de Vere, duke of Ireland in 1387. Richard Weald died in possession of it in 1391: his heiress was his daughter Elizabeth, married to Lewes Mewes, esq. who presented to this church from 1430 to 1447, as did his son Thomas, in 1463. In 1476, sir Geoffrey Gate died, holding this manor of Richard duke of Gloucester, and left his son William his heir, at that time fourteen years of age, and his widow Agnes, who enjoyed this manor till her death in 1481, having been re-married to William Brainlac. It afterwards passed to Richard Gate, who died in 1485; Geoffrey, his son, in 1526, whose son, sir John Gate, being connected with the party which supported the claims of lady Jane Gray, was executed on that account, and forfeited this and his other estates, which were granted by king Philip and queen Mary, to Richard Weston, and Margaret his wife, who, in 1572, were succeeded by their son, sir Jerome Weston, who died in 1603, leaving sir Richard Weston his son, his heir, from whom, in 1605, this estate was recovered, by writ of entry, by Richard Courtman and others. In 1655, it belonged to Edward Stokes; succeeded by lord North, and by — Heneage, esq. of Hatton Garden, and to Mrs. Elizabeth Heneage. Afterwards it became the property of William Harvey, esq.

Long
Barnes.

The mansion of the manor of Frays is not far from Long Barnes: the estate was a considerable time the property of the Gate and Weston families. Afterwards it belonged to Mr. John Miller, who sold it to Mr. Pochin, of London, and it descended to his family of Ickleton, in Cambridgeshire.

Frays.

Bird's Green is a hamlet partly in this parish, and partly in Willingale Dou.

The church is of one pace with the chancel, and dedicated to St. Botolph: from the high ground which it occupies, the surrounding country, rich in agricultural productions, with woodland scenery of vast extent and endlessly varied, presents, in every direction, interesting prospects.

Church.

* Average annual produce—wheat 24, barley 32 bushels per acre.

BOOK II.

In 1821, this parish contained two hundred and eleven, and in 1831, two hundred and thirty-eight inhabitants.

RODING-ABBESS.

Roding-
Abbess.

This parish occupies the northern extremity of the hundred, and the paramount manor and the church having belonged to the abbess of Barking was the occasion of its name. The soil is described by agricultural writers as peculiarly heavy and tenacious; but, by the persevering application of an appropriate husbandry, is made to produce good crops.* From Chelmsford this place is distant eleven, and from London twenty-seven miles.

A subordinate manor in this parish belonged to Leuild before the Conquest, and to Geoffrey de Mandeville and his under-tenant Geoffrey Martel, at the time of the survey. There are now three manors.

Abbess-
Hall.

After the dissolution of monasteries, the manor of Abbess Hall was sold, in 1544, to Robert Chartsey and others; and in 1545 became the property of Robert Meredith; by whom it was conveyed, the day after purchase, to Robert Long, who, in 1549, conveyed this, with other extensive possessions, to William Glascock, gent. who died in 1579, leaving Richard, his son, his heir. In 1592, Tipper and Dawe, the noted hunters after concealed lands, procured a grant of these among others; but it is supposed they could not retain possession, for, in 1599, this manor was granted to Richard Glascock, by queen Elizabeth; and he sold it a few days after to Gamaliel Capel, esq. of Rookwood-hall, on whose decease, in 1613, he was succeeded by his son, sir Gamaliel Capel, knt. who died in 1652, succeeded by his son and grandson, both named Gamaliel, the latter of whom died in 1720, having conveyed this, with other estates, to John Howland, esq. of Streatham; from whom it descended to his daughter Elizabeth, and to her son John, duke of Bedford, who, in 1739, sold it to Stephen Skinner, esq. of Walthamstow, whose eldest daughter, Emma, was married to William Harvey, esq. of Chigwell. It is now the property of T. Bramston, esq. who possesses it in right of his wife, daughter of the late sir Eliab Harvey. The mansion of Abbess Hall is near the church.

Rook-
wood-hall

The mansion of this manor is half a mile west from the church;† the estate is what belonged to Geoffrey de Mandeville at the survey, who had taken it from the abbey of Barking; but the holder of it was only a tenant to Geoffrey's ancestor, and it could only be disposed of to the abbey. There is no record of the subsequent owners till 1250, when it belonged to John Fitz-Richard, followed by Richard Fitz-William, succeeded by Richard, son of William de Roynge, in 1266: the lords paramount being the earls of Oxford. It belongs now to C. I. Selwyn, esq.

* Average annual produce per acre—wheat 24, barley 32 bushels.

† The arms of Rookwood are in the north window of the church: Argent, six chess-rooms, three, two, one, sable; bordered, or.—*Symond's Collect.* vol. iii. fol. 99.

In 1427, this manor had become the property of Anne Browne, of the family of that name, of Weald Hall, in South Weald; her successors were Thomas Browne, in 1466; John Browne, who died in 1468, followed by descendants of the same family, till Weston Browne, the son of George Browne, esq. marrying Mary, daughter of Edward Capel, esq. of Rayne Hall, dying in 1580, left Anthony, who died in 1589, without issue; Catharine, married to sir Nicholas Waldegrave; and Jane, married, first, to Edward Wyatt, of Ilkham, and afterwards to Gamaliel Capel, esq. :* and the estate was divided between these two co-heiresses and their husbands. The time of the decease of sir Nicholas Waldegrave is not recorded; but sir Gamaliel Capel and his posterity for many generations resided here, till Gamaliel Capel, esq. who died in 1720,† mortgaged or sold this estate to John Howland, esq. of Streatham. It now belongs to Charles Ibbetson Selwyn, esq. of Down Hall, and is occupied as a farm.

Berwick Berners is a hamlet in this parish; the mansion is a mile north-eastward from the church. For this hamlet a constable is chosen, who attends at Dunmow, on which account it is reckoned to be in Dunmow hundred. In 1297, Ralph Berners died in possession of it, and was succeeded by his son Edmund. Sir James de Berners held this estate in the reign of Richard the second, and after his attainder for being one of that king's evil counsellors, it was, in 1389, restored by the same king to his widow, Anne Berners: sir John Bouchier, lord Berners, died in 1475; and is said to have sold this estate to sir William Capel; on whose decease, in 1515, it descended to sir Giles, his son; succeeded by his son, sir Henry, in 1556, and to others of the family of Rayne Hall, till it was conveyed to Robert Abdy, bart., who sold it to Thomas Brand, esq. of Fifield: it now belongs to lord Dacre.

Berwick
Berners.

The church, dedicated to St. Edmund, is of one pace with the chancel, and a wooden Church.

* His second wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Giles Paulet, esq. by whom he had no issue.

† Sir Gamaliel Capel, the fifth son of Henry Capel, esq. of Rayne Hall, by Katharine, his second wife, daughter of Thomas Manners, earl of Rutland, by his wife Jane, daughter and co-heiress of Weston Browne, esq. had Gamaliel, Thomas, Anthony, Henry, Theodosius, Francis, Mary (wife of — Arundel), Anne, (married to Robert Wiseman, esq. of Canfield), and Mildred, married to sir William Luckyn, bart. of Little Waltham. Sir Gamaliel, the father, died in 1613, and his lady in 1618. Sir Gamaliel Capel, kn't. the eldest son and heir, married Dorothy Bennet; by whom he had Gamaliel, Francis, Arthur, Thomas, Robert, Dorothy, Mildred, Anne, Elizabeth, and Lucy: he died in 1652, his lady having died in 1648. Gamaliel, their eldest son, married Sarah Marshall, of Surrey, and had by her Gamaliel, Charles, Sarah, Dorothy, and Mildred, married in 1685, to John Wale, esq. of Little Bardfield: their father died in 1683, and his widow in 1698. Gamaliel Capel, esq. their eldest son, married, first, Anne, daughter of sir James Bunch, alderman of London; by whom he had Anne, wife of William Mason, of London, brewer: his second wife was Elizabeth, daughter of John Booth, of London.—Arms of Capel: Gules, a lion rampant, between three cross crosslets fitché, or: a martlet for difference. Crest: on a torse or and gules, a demi-lion, holding in its paws a cross crosslet fitché, or.

BOOK II. belfry, with a small spire, contains three bells.* This rectory is understood to have been in the gift of the abbey of Barking till its dissolution. In 1550, it was holden by sir Ralph Fane; by John Gate, esq. in 1552; by William Glascock, in 1579; by his son Richard, and by the Capel family.

John Thurloe. John Thurloe, an English statesman under Oliver Cromwell, was of this parish, of which his father was rector. He was born in 1616, educated for the bar, and, in 1648, made receiver of the cursitory fines. When Oliver Cromwell assumed the

Inscriptions. * Inscriptions.—On the east wall of the chancel, above the figures of a man and woman in devotional attitudes :—

<p>“ Loe, honoures embleme, virtues darling, learn- inges favourite, Noble by birth, by life a sainte, by death a blissful wight ;</p>	<p>His name importeth Godes rewarde, then for his last farewell, Let this suffice; he lived and dyd a true Gama- liel.”</p>
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“ Here lieth sir Gamaliel Capel, knt. sonne of Mr. Henry Capel, esq., and the ladye Katharin, daughter of the earl of Rutland. He married Jane, one of the daughters and heirs of Mr. Weston Browne; by whom he had six sonnes, viz., Gamaliel, knt., Thomas, Anthony, Henry, Theodosius, and Francis, and three daughters, Mary, Anne, and Mildred. Ob. A.D. 1627, æt. suæ 50.”

Beneath the figure of lady Luckyn, with appropriate ornaments, and angels placing a crown upon her head, is the following: “To the pretious memory of that excellent lady, Mildred, lady Luckyn, the wife of William Luckyn, of Little Waltham, in Essex, baronet, youngest daughter of sir Gamaliel Capel, of Rookwood Hall, in Essex, knt. and dame Jane his wife, who received the crown of glory in the yeare of grace 1633, Aug. 23, and of her age 32, being the happy mother of eight children; viz., Capel, Elizabeth, Henry, Mildred, Mildred, William, William, Jane; whereof Henry, Mildred, and Mildred the elder, left earth before her. The other five she left to the blessing of her God and the tender care of her husband.

<p>“ We bragge no virtues, and we begge no teares, O reader, if thou hast but eyes and cares, It is enough: but tell me, why Thou can'st to gaze? is it to pry Into our cost? or borrow A copie of our sorrowe? Or dost thou come To learn to dye,</p>	<p>Not knowing whome To practice by? If this be thy desire, Remove thee one step nigher, Here lies a precedent: a rarer Earth never showed, nor heaven a fayrer. She was—but roome denies to tell thee what, Summe all perfections uppe; and she was that,”</p>
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A brass plate in the middle of the church, bears the following: “On the deathe of Edward Humberstone, gent. late of Cockerells, in this parishe, who deceased the first of November, in the 80th year of his age, A.D. 1622: Thomas Humberstone, his kinsman, hath consecrated this memorial.

<p>“ Here lyes the corpes of one of gentle blood, Right honest, plaine, free hearted, loving, kinde, Who scarce knew ill, but by the use of good, Full of almes deedes, of hospitable mynde, His yeares were reverend; and he lefte his life In peace of conscience, and in love of man. Few days before him dy'd his aged wife:</p>	<p>Both like in good merit my equall pen; Which gives but right, out of the right they gave; And though their earthly part with earth be blended, Yet shall their memories survive the grave; Nor are they there, but unto heaven ascended. Thus are they changed, not lost; each to its byrth; Immortal parts to heaven, and earth to earth.”</p>
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Charity.—Nicholas Burton, rector of this parish, gave forty shillings a year to the clerk of the church, out of a house, in a part of which he resided at the time of this benefaction.

protectorship, he became secretary of state; in 1655, he had the care and charge both of foreign and inland postage; and was afterwards sworn a member of the privy council. He was continued in the same offices under Richard Cromwell, and until measures were taken for the Restoration; when he made an offer of his services to that end, which, however, was not accepted. In 1660, he was committed to the custody of the serjeant-at-arms on a charge of high treason; but, being soon released, he retired to Great Milton, in Oxfordshire: and though afterwards often solicited by Charles the second to engage in the administration of public business, he declined the offers. He died in 1668. In private life he was a man of an amiable character, and in the height of his power exercised all possible moderation towards persons of every party. The most indisputable evidence of his abilities is his vast collection of State Papers, containing authentic memorials of the English affairs, from 1638 to the restoration of king Charles the second, published in 1742, in seven volumes folio, with his *Life* by Birch.

The population of this parish, with Berwick hamlet, in 1821, amounted to two hundred and thirty-six, of which Berwick hamlet was ninety-seven; but the boundaries of the hamlet cannot be ascertained; although in 1811 and 1821, the population was returned distinctly.

HIGH LAVER.

The name of Laver has been given to three contiguous parishes, distinguished from each other by the appellations of High, Magdalen, and Little. In records the name is written Lagafare, Laghefare, Lanfare, Lauver.

High
Laver.

Of these parishes, that which lies farthest northward, is called High Laver; also sometimes in records styled Great Laver, and King's Laver. Before the Conquest, it belonged to Luvin, Alwin, a freeman, and Brictmar; and at the survey, to Eustace, earl of Boulogne. Distant from Chelmsford fourteen, and from London twenty-two miles. There are two manors.

The mansion of the chief manor is near the church: this estate descended from Maud, grand-daughter of earl Eustace, and queen of king Stephen, and remained in possession of the crown till it was given by Henry the second to William Fitz-Aucher, whose son Richard, and his successor of the same name, held it in 1210 and 1211. The abbess of St. Sulpicius claimed the services and homage of the tenants of this manor, as assigned to her by Richard, son of Henry Fitz-Aucher; but her claim being contested, was not finally settled till 1237, when Richard, son of Henry Fitz-Aucher, agreed that himself and his ancestors should pay the abbess Amicia and her successors ten pounds per annum. Joan, a succeeding abbess, granting this rent to Waltham abbey, it hence happened that the Auchers held under the abbot of Waltham: it was so holden by sir Henry Fitz-Aucher, who died in 1303, and by his son, sir Aucher Fitz-Aucher, in 1331 to 1334. The noble family of Ferrers, of Groby, for a time

Manor of
High
Laver.

BOOK II. had possession of it; and in 1438 to 1452, it belonged to Richard Priour, esq.: Walter Writell, esq. of Bobbingworth, held it at the time of his decease, in 1475; and it was successively in possession of his son and grandson, and ultimately became the inheritance of his daughter Alienor, who was married to James Walsingham, esq., whose son and heir, sir Thomas Walsingham, died in possession of it in 1583, succeeded by his son Thomas; after whom the next possessor was Arthur Stanlake, esq. Afterwards the estate was divided between two co-heiresses; of whom Mary, daughter of Richard Matthews, conveyed her portion to her husband, Samuel Bearcroft, and they left it to their son, Matthew Bearcroft. Abraham Foster, esq. of Eltham, in Kent, married the other co-heiress; and on his death left two daughters; one of these was married, in 1728, to Lewis Scawen, esq. son of Thomas Scawen, knt.; the other became the wife of Mr. Richard Merry. The estate afterwards belonged to lord Masham.

Otes. The manor of Otes is traditionally understood to have been named from John Otes, who held this and other estates under lord Scales, in the time of Edward the second: the ancient mansion has been completely destroyed. In 1487, sir John Sulyard, one of the justices of the king's bench, died holding a moiety of this estate of Edward duke of Buckingham. Edward was his eldest son and heir; whose sister Elizabeth was married to — Garneys, esq. Sir William, the son of Edward Sulyard, died in 1539, and was succeeded by Robert Garneys, esq. his cousin; but it came again into the Sulyard family, Eustace Sulyard dying in possession of it in 1546; his heir was his son, sir Edward Sulyard, knt. who died in 1610; the estate having been previously purchased by sir William Masham. The other portion of this manor had been partly holden from the year 1499, by George Pikenham and his descendants, and those of John Limsey, who died in 1546, leaving his son Edward his heir. In the reign of James the first, it was purchased by sir William Masham,* and remained in this family till the death of the last lord Masham, in 1776. It now belongs to — Starkins, esq. of Bishop Stortford.

Masham family.

* The family of Masham was anciently seated in the north of England, and took their surname from the village of Masham, near Richmond, in Yorkshire, where they were seated in the reign of Henry the sixth: sir John Masham settled in Suffolk, and was buried at Thornham in 1450; John, his heir, was the father of Thomas Masham, esq. of Badwell Ash, in that county, ancestor of the Mashams, of Suffolk, whose son John had two sons; John, and William, an alderman, and one of the sheriffs of London in 1583. His son, William Masham, esq. was seated at Otes, and by his wife —, daughter of — Caggon, left William Masham, esq. created a baronet in 1621; member of parliament for Maldon in 1623 to 1625; for Colchester in 1640, and for the county in the long parliament: he married Elizabeth, daughter of sir Francis Barrington, of Hatfield Broad oak, widow of sir James Altham, of Mark Hall, in Latton; William was his eldest son and heir, who marrying Elizabeth, daughter of sir John Trevor, knt., died in his father's life-time, leaving William and Francis; sir William died unmarried, on which the honour and estate came to sir Francis, who was member of parliament for the county in 1690, 1695, and in all the parliaments from 1700 to 1708: he married, first, Mary, daughter of sir William Scot, of Rouen, in Normandy, bart. and had by her eight sons, all of whom he survived, except the youngest, Samuel, created

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is of one pace with the chancel; above the steeple it has a lofty wooden spire.*

CHAP.
XI.

The learned and celebrated philosopher, John Locke, passed a great part of the last ten years of his life at Otes, the seat of sir Francis Masham. This place proved agreeable to him, and beneficial on account of his declining health: the air restored him almost to a miracle, in a few hours, at any time, after his return from London, quite exhausted and unable to support himself, and he found in lady Masham a friend and companion exactly to his heart's wish; disposed to a life of contemplation and study: she was inured from her infancy to deep speculations in theology, metaphysics, and moral philosophy. In this family Mr. Locke lived with as much ease and freedom

Church.
Locke.

lord Masham.—Francis, the fourth son, left a son, named Francis, who, on his grandfather's death, succeeded to the baronetship, and died unmarried. Sir Francis, the father, had also a daughter, highly accomplished, named Hester: his second wife was Damaris, daughter of Dr. Cudworth, master of Christ's college, Cambridge; by whom he had Francis Cudworth Masham, esq., who was accomptant-general to the high court of chancery. She died 20th April, 1708, and is buried at Bath: sir Francis died in 1723, and was succeeded in his estates by his son Samuel, lord Masham, who, under George prince of Denmark, was placed in offices of high responsibility and honour; and under queen Anne had the command of a regiment of horse, and was advanced to be brigadier-general: in 1711, he was cofferer of the household, and created baron Masham, of Otes. He married Abigail, daughter of Francis Hill, esq. Turkey merchant, and, dying in 1758, was succeeded by his son, the right hon. Samuel lord Masham, who had married Harriet, daughter of Thomas Winnington, esq.

* Inscriptions.—Epitaph on Mr. Locke: “Siste, viator, hic juxta situs est Johannes Locke. Si qualis fuerit rogas, mediocritate sua contentum se vixisse respondet; litteris inutritus eousque tantum profuit ut veritati unice literet. Hoc ex scriptis illius discas, quæ quod de eo reliquum est majori fide tibi exhibebant quam epitaphii suspecta elogia. Virtutes, si quas habuit, minores sane quam quas sibi laudi, tibi in exemplum proponeret, vitia una sepeliantur. Morum exemplum si quæras, in Evangelio habes; vitiorum utinam nusquam; mortalitatis certè (quod profit) hic et ubique. Natum An. Dni. 1632, Aug. 29, mortuum An. Dom. 1704, Oct. 28. Memorat hæc tabula brevi et ipsa interitura.”—Translation: “Stop, traveller. Near this place lieth John Locke. If you ask what kind of man he was, he answers, that he lived content with his own small fortune. Bred a scholar, he made his learning subservient only to the cause of truth. This thou wilt learn from his writings, which will show thee every thing else concerning him, with greater truth, than the suspected praises of an epitaph. His virtues, indeed, if he had any, were too little for him to propose as matter of praise to himself, or as an example to thee. Let his vices be buried together. As to an example of manners, if you seek that, you have it in the Gospel; of vices, I wish you may have one nowhere; of mortality, certainly (and may it profit thee) thou hast one here, and everywhere.—This stone, which will itself perish in a short time, records that he was born Aug. 29, in the year of our Lord 1632; that he died Oct. 28, in the year of our Lord 1704.”

Inscriptions.

A plain marble, on the north wall of the chancel, bears the following: “Damaris Cudworth, relict of Ralph Cudworth, D.D. and master of Christ's college, in Cambridge: exemplarie for her pietie and virtue; for studie of the Scripture, charitic to the poore, and good will to all, lies buried here. She was born October 23, 1623, and died Nov. 15, 1695.”

On the south wall of the chancel: “Near this place lies the body of Mr. Samuel Low, who, after he had faithfully discharged his ministerial office forty-seven years in this parish, departed this life, Dec. 7, 1709, aged 79. He was to himself frugal, to his friends bountiful, exactly just, strictly pious, and extremely charitable. Poor widows and children he was a father to, living; and, having no issue, made them his heirs at his death, leaving to the Society of Clergymen's Sons, in money eight hundred pounds, and in land above eighty pounds per annum, besides other great legacies to charitable uses; and is gone to receive

BOOK II. as if the whole house had been his own; and he had the additional satisfaction of seeing this lady, in the education of her only son, pursue the plan he himself had laid down; the success of which was such as seemed to sanction his judgment of that method: in short, it was from the advantage of this situation that he derived so much strength as to be able to continue exerting his great talents to the last. In 1700, he became so infirm that he could no longer bear the air of London, and resigned his seat at the board of trade; after which he continued constantly at Otes, employing the last years of his life in the study of the Holy Scriptures, and where he died in 1704, aged seventy-three. He wrote his own epitaph, and lies buried under a black marble gravestone in this church-yard.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to four hundred and sixty-four, and in 1831, to four hundred and ninety-five.

MAGDALEN LAVER.

Magdalen
Laver.

The church of this parish, being dedicated to Mary Magdalen, accounts for its name: it lies between High Laver and Bobbingworth, in a very healthy and pleasant part of the country, on the south-western extremity of the district, by agricultural writers named "crop and fallow;" yet the soil, though heavy, is found in a moderate degree productive, with good management.* Distant from Epping six, and from London twenty-two miles.

Before the Conquest, a Saxon named Sexi had the lands of this parish, which, at the survey, had become the property of Ralph de Toden, and his under-tenant was Roger. There is only one manor.†

his reward. This monument was erected by his executors." Arms: Argent, on a bend cotised, azure, three wolves' heads, erased of the field, impaling gules, a saltier or, bearing a saltier, vert. Crest: On a wreath, a demi-griffin erased, azure.

A broken brass plate in the chancel bears an imperfect inscription in ancient characters, to inform us that it was to the memory of "Robert Ramsey, and his wife Joane." Under the effigy of a man and woman, on a brass plate, in old English characters, with four sons and one daughter:—

" Here lieth in grave undre this marhyl harde,	Whois vtue, worth, and womanly delite,
Of John Copto, esquier, the dought and heyre by right,	Remayne shall in Essex in pptuall memorie,
Myrabyll, late wyfe of Edward Sulyard,	Sith deth hathe her rafte owte of the psent
Coosyn and heire of Thomas Flemmyng, knyght,	light."

On a black marble on the ground: "Sir Francis Masham, bart. ob. 2 March, 1722, æt. 77;" and on another, "Here lies the hon. M. Elizabeth Masham, second daughter of the right hon. Samuel lord Masham, and Abigail his wife, who died Oct. 24, 1724, aged 15."

On four tombs in the church-yard, inscriptions to the memory of "the right hon. Samuel lord Masham, baron of Otes, who died Oct. 16, 1758, aged 79. Abigail, lady Masham, wife of the right hon. Samuel lord Masham; she died Dec. 6, 1734."

"The hon. major-general Hill, brother of the right hon. the lady Masham, who died June 22, 1735. — Alice Hill, sister to the right hon. Abigail, lady Masham; she died Sept. 15, 1762, aged 77."

* Average annual produce of bushels per acre—wheat 24, barley 30.

† This parish is placed in the hundred of Harlow, in Domesday book.

The mansion of Magdalen Laver manor is near the church: after Toden, the earliest recorded possessors of this estate were Robert de Burnaville and John de Angerville, John de Monpyncon and Arabella his wife, in the reign of Henry the third. The two first of these were enfeoffed in this possession by Joan de Marcy, their grandmother: in 1320, it belonged to Humphrey de Waldene, who died in 1331, holding this estate of sir Hugh de Audele; his heir was Andrew, son of his brother Roger, who, dying without issue in 1352, was succeeded by Thomas Bataile, son of his sister Alice, who died in 1439, holding this estate of the honour of Clare; and sir Thomas Cook was the next recorded possessor, who died in 1478. After remaining some time in this family, it passed to those of Ayloffe and Barrington; it belonged, in 1619, to William Aylet, yeoman; and he or his son of the same name marrying Anne, daughter of — Sumner, had his son John Aylet, who married Alianor, daughter of Isaac Bernard. John Aylet, his son, was of White Roding, in 1664, and married Mary, daughter of Ralph Pettus, of Brices, in Kelvedon Hatch.* In 1662, John Throckmorton, and in 1667, George Throckmorton, presented to this church, and are consequently believed to have held this estate, which was purchased of one of the family, by William Cole, esq. treasurer of St. Thomas's hospital, and sheriff of Essex in 1716, who, on his decease in 1730, gave it to his nephew, William Cole; on whose decease, in the same year, he was succeeded by his brother, Henry Cole: it afterwards belonged to John Cozens, esq.

CHAP.
XI.
Manor.

An estate named Rolls, in 1539, belonged to sir William Sulyard, of High Laver, and afterwards to lord Masham.

The church is dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen; the nave separated from the chancel by a handsome wooden screen of ancient appearance; it has a wooden belfry leaded.†

Church.

* According to an account kept in the family, this gentleman was lord of Magdalen Laver, and like his father-in-law, — Pettus, was a great sufferer for king Charles the first; in whose service he expended seven hundred pounds a year, raised a troop of horse at his own charge, and was in numerous engagements during the war. The king, to shew his grateful sense of his services, ordered an augmentation of his arms, when at Oxford in 1646, having no other reward to bestow upon him.—His coat was, Gules, three annulets, a chief argent. The addition was, on a canton, or, the rose of England, proper. Crest: an arm, gules, holding a sword, hilted, or, blade argent. Motto: "Not in vain." He was one of the commanders at Colchester during the siege, and sentenced to be shot, but escaped in the disguise of a female dress. However, he was retaken, and purchased his life of the parliament for four hundred and sixty pounds. He had afterwards a commission from Charles the second, to surprise Chepstow castle, and take the government of it. But he was betrayed and made a prisoner till the Restoration. It is believed he then took up his residence at White Roding, where he had a view of his lost estate.

† Inscriptions.—A monument in the chancel bears a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation: "Sacred to the memory of George Kindleton, B.D. rector of this church, an intrepid defender of the orthodox faith, and of the church of England. He, having strongly opposed the Scottish confederacy, and the English treason, was driven from this flock and church, where he had abode seventeen years: and was afterwards banished from his beloved church sixteen years. Until, through the pity of

Inscriptions.

BOOK II. Humphrey de Waleden, in 1330, obtained a licence to give the manor and advowson for the endowment of a chantry in this church; but the proposed foundation never took place.

Antiquities.

In 1757, as some workmen were ploughing in a field in this parish, called Red Mill Shot, belonging to Mr. John Cozens, they discovered a stone coffin, two feet and a half deep, six feet and a half long, and the lid and sides four inches thick. The lid was not fastened, and when taken off, the skull and other bones of the person inclosed, appeared entire: in the same field, human bones have been ploughed up, and a tradition prevails, that the church formerly stood in this situation, which is near the centre of the parish; but there is no record to strengthen this supposition, neither have any foundations of buildings ever been found here.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and thirty-six, and in 1831, to two hundred and six.

LITTLE LAVER.

Little Laver.

This is the smallest of the Lavers, and previous to the Conquest, and at the survey, was included in one of the other two parishes so named; it extends from High Laver eastward, and to the extremity of the hundred of Ongar on the north. Distant from Ongar eight, and from London twenty-three miles. There are two manors.

Little Laver Hall.

The manor of Little Laver has the mansion near the church, and the earliest account is of the year 1200, when the estate was conveyed from Eustace de Langefare to Ralph de Roucester, son of Thomas Rochester, lord of Nuelles, in Berks, in Hertfordshire. The offspring of Ralph were William, Peter, and Alice, who successively came to this inheritance; William, in the reign of Henry the third, succeeded by Peter, and by Alice, who conveyed it to her husband Robert de Scales, a descendant of Hardwin de Scales, who came in at the Conquest. Robert died in 1324, leaving his son of the same name: it was afterwards holden under lord Scales by the Bouchier family, till Anne, daughter and sole heiress of Henry Bouchier, the last earl of Essex of this family, conveyed it to her husband, William lord Parre, who disposed of it to sir Richard Rich, in 1542; who sold it to John Collyn, or Collin, of Roding

this clamorous nation, on the miraculous restoration of king Charles the second, he returned to it; from whence, after four years, he removed to the most blest abodes and heavenly joys, having lived sixty-one years. His most affectionate and affected wife, Emma, caused this marble to be erected to his memory, on the 3d of January, in the Christian æra, 1667."

There are also inscriptions on "William Cole, of Magdalen Laver, esq., who died February 24, 1729, aged 22; to whom this monument was erected by his much-beloved and affectionate widow, Mary Cole, daughter of John Hillar, of London. Henry Cole, esq., who died Sept. 24, 1760, aged 45 years."

"In memory of William Cole, late of Magdalen Laver, esq., who was high sheriff of Essex in 1716, and several years treasurer of St. Thomas's Hospital, Southwark. He died Feb. 1, 1729, aged 60."

Beauchamp.* Afterwards this manor was purchased of one of the Collin family, by Matthew Bluch, who sold it to lord Masham.

CHAP.
XI.

The manor of Enville, or Enfield, is believed to have been taken from the paramount manor, in the reign of Edward the second. William de Enfield, and his wife Joan, were joint proprietors of this estate in 1361, and were succeeded by their son John, who held it in 1377: it soon afterwards came to Ralph Tyle, in right of Alice his wife; and their son, John Tyle, died here in 1399, whose heir was Thomas Enfield, uncle of his mother Alice. The Collins family, of Beauchamp Roding, had this estate for several generations, of whom it was purchased by Mr. John Austrey, who settled it on Mr. John Evans, his grandson. Afterwards it became the property of John Jones, esq., and it now belongs to John Maryon Wilson, esq.

Enville.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is small, with a belfry and wooden spire rising from the central part of the building.

Church.

This parish, in 1821, contained one hundred and seven, and in 1831, one hundred and twelve inhabitants.

MORETON.

This parish extends southward from Little Laver, and occupies ground considerably elevated, in many instances affording agreeable prospects. The soil, of various descriptions, is generally very good; it is parted from the Lavers and Bobbingworth by a brook, which falls into the Rodon at Cheping Ongar; a good bridge of brick-work was built over this brook, in 1762, by voluntary subscription. Distant from Epping six, and from London twenty-two miles.

Moreton.

Moreton is a neat little village on the rise of a hill, and consisting of one street, usually named Moreton End. A proprietor named Sexi, and a freeman, held it in Edward the confessor's reign, and at the survey it belonged to William Scobies; in 1230, William de Averanches, or Abrincis, died in possession of it, leaving by his wife Maud, (daughter and co-heiress of Hawise, wife of John de Bovill), William, who died before the year 1235, without issue, and Maud, married to Hamo de Creveceur, lord of Ledes, in Kent, descended from Hugo Dapifer. By her he had William, who died before him, leaving a son named Robert, who had no offspring; he had also four daughters; Agnes, married to John de Sandwich; Isold, wife of Nicholas de Lenham; Eleanor, married to Bartholomy de Kyriell; and Isabel, married to Henry

* John Collin or Collyn, son of William, of Roding Beauchamp, had a son named John, and the male line continued in the same name for many generations; John Collyn, the third in succession, was living in 1589, whose son John had John, Mary, and Etherdreda. Thomas Collyn married Dorothy, daughter of Edward Elrington, esq. of Theydon-Bois; and had by her Thomas, living in 1664.—Arms of Collyn: Vert, a griffin segreant, or; on the shoulder a crescent, of the second Crest: A griffin's head erased, or; a collar ermine.

BOOK II. **de Gaunt.** Hamo de Creveceur, husband of Maud, died in 1262, and his grandson Robert in 1296; on which the estate was parcelled out between these four daughters or their heirs; and Isabel dying in 1283, her portion was divided between the others; from this partition there arose two manors: the original tenure of this estate was by the sergeancy of finding one man with a horse of ten shillings price, and four horse-shoes, a leather sack, and one iron fastening, at his own charge, for forty days, whenever the king should go into Wales; and after the partition, this sergeancy was performed between the owners of both mansions.

Nether
Hall.

There are now no remains of the ancient manor-house of Nether Hall, which was near the south-east corner of the church-yard; it has also been named Bouchiers Hall. This moiety of the estate was conveyed to the family of Bouchier, by marriage, and was successively in the possession of Robert Bouchier, who died in 1349; of Bartholomy lord Bouchier, his son, and his wife Idonea; and their only daughter conveyed it to her two husbands, sir Hugh Stafford, and sir Lewis Robessart: but having no issue by either, it descended to Henry Bouchier, earl of Eu and Essex; and on his decease, in 1483, to his grandson, Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, who, by accidentally falling from his horse, was killed in 1540, leaving his daughter Anne his heiress, who was married to William lord Parr, earl of Essex; who, in 1542, sold this estate to Richard lord Rich; after whose decease it continued in his family, till it was purchased by Robert Bourne, esq. of Blake Hall, in Bobbingworth, whose daughter Alice was married to John lord Digby, who died in 1665; and the lady Alice afterwards dying without issue, Mr. Bourne settled the reversion of this estate, which afterwards belonged to Ambrose Page, a director of the South-sea-company; and being sold by the company, it was purchased, in 1724, by William Cole, esq. and passed to his nephews, William and Henry; and to Henry Cozens, esq. It now belongs to the occupier, Mr. W. Hill Alger.

Upper
Hall.

The manor-house of Upper Hall is in the fields north-eastward from Nether Hall; it was also named Over Hall, and Lady Hall, supposed from Juliana, daughter and heiress of John de Sandwich, by Agnes, eldest daughter of Hamo de Creveceur. She was married to John de Segrave, styled Le Uncle, because he was uncle to lord Segrave. He held this moiety at the time of his death in 1343, and was succeeded by his son John, who died in 1349; the next possessor being his cousin, Stephen de Segrave. This estate is supposed to have been conveyed to Elizabeth, only daughter of John lord Segrave, by his wife the lady Margaret, only daughter and heiress of Thomas de Brotherton, earl of Norfolk, to her husband, Thomas de Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, who died possessed of it in 1400, and which belonged to his son Thomas, beheaded in 1404; on this occasion, in the inquisition, it is first called Lady Hall: it passed from the Mowbrays to the Howards, and was alienated in 1538 by Thomas duke of Norfolk: Richard lord Rich next succeeded to this possession, followed by his son

Robert, earl of Warwick, of whose heirs it was purchased by Dr. Josias Woodward, minister of Poplar; and at the decease of his widow and son, it became the property of Lewen Choldmondley, and of his son, Lewen Choldmondley, esq. Afterwards it belonged to — Hookham, esq. The present owner of this estate is John Hookham Freer, esq. of Roydon, Norfolk.

Henhouse farm is the property of Mr. Joseph White, and in the occupation of his son.

The rectory house is a neat and commodious building, of considerable antiquity; but was much altered and enlarged by the late rector, Mr. Wilson. Moreton
rectory.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a small, neat building; the tower being of brick, covered with cement or plaster, with a shingled spire.* William Scobies gave this church to the monastery of St. Stephen, at Caen, in Normandy, with the land and tithe belonging to it. King Henry the first confirmed this grant, and a vicarage was ordained, to which the prior of Pantfield usually presented; and that priory being a cell to the convent of Caen, and the prior of Pantfield procurator for them, and receiver of their rents, it was seized by Edward the third, as a priory alien, and afterwards granted by parliament to Henry the fifth; and Henry the sixth endowing his college of Eton, settled on it a pension of “eighteen marks from the vicarage of Moreton;” for it continued a vicarage till 1532, when it was presented to as a rectory by Henry the eighth, who granted the church and advowson, first to Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, and afterwards to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, who had licence, in 1538, to sell it to lord Rich; in whose family it continued till it was purchased by St. John’s college, in Cambridge. Church.

The rev. Samuel Hoard was rector of this church from 1626 to 1628, and had the courage (says Mr. Morant), at a time when it was accounted a greater crime than treason to boggle at the doctrine of absolute predestination, with all its blasphemous consequences, to publish “God’s love to mankind manifested, by disproving his abso- Mr. Hoard.

* Charities.—In 1699, Mr. Jonathan Carver left, by will, a rent-charge of five pounds out of an estate at Moreton End, to be distributed to the poor, in money or clothes, on Christmas Day. In 1727, Mrs. Judith Elford gave a velvet communion-cloth, pulpit-cloth, and cushion, and new rails around the communion table, and the ten commandments over it; wainscoted the chancel, new paved the church, and built a new gallery. An unknown benefactor gave a farm at the west end of North-lane, for the perpetual reparation of the church.—Mrs. Ann Brecknock, of Aldgate, London, in 1804, left two hundred pounds consols; the interest of which is to be distributed annually, at the discretion of the rector and churchwardens.—The rev. W. Wilson left three hundred pounds, likewise; the interest of two hundred pounds to the parish clerk; and the interest of one hundred pounds to the beadle for ever.—There is an endowed school in the village, erected partly at the expense of the late rector, the rev. William Wilson, B.D., and by a subscription of the neighbouring gentlemen; it is endowed with the redeemed land-tax, twenty-three pounds four shillings; the executors have since added four hundred pounds. The house is a neat building, with a centre, containing convenient apartments for the master and mistress; and there are two wings; one for boys, the other for girls. Charities.

BOOK II lute decree for their damnation." It was esteemed one of the best books upon that subject; printed in 1635 in 4to., and in 1673 in 8vo., without the author's name; see Wood's *Athen.* vol. ii. col. 221, ed. 1721. He also wrote, "The Soul's Misery and Recovery, by Samuel Hoard, parson of Morton, Essex," 8vo. 1636; and other works.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to four hundred and eight, and in 1831, to four hundred and thirty-one.*

SHELLEY.

Shelley. The etymology of Shelley, is probably *Scen* (the sheen of old English authors) pleasant, and *Treaz*, a pasture. The agreeable meads which skirt the small brook running through the parish, will sufficiently account for their appellation: this name in records is written *Shelfele*, *Shellegh*, and in *Domesday*, *Senlei*: it is a small parish, extending from *Moreton* to the *Ongars*.† Distant from *Ongar* two, and from *London* twenty-three miles. There is only one manor.

Shelley Hall. Shelley Hall is near the west end of the church, and is now a handsome residence, of moderate size, most probably having formed part of the ancient manor-house, but retaining very little appearance of antiquity: there is, however, in the hall, a chimney-piece in the fashion of Elizabeth's or James the first's time, and over the door of the back kitchen, the date 1587. *Leudai* was the name of the Saxon proprietor of this parish before the Conquest, and at the survey it belonged to *Geofrey de Magnaville*, whose under-tenant was *Rainald*; succeeded by *Johannah*, wife of *Walleram de Munceus*, on whose decease, in 1278, sir *William de Cloyle*, and *Aveline*, wife of *Roger de Lees*, descended from her two sisters, were her heirs. *Aveline* brought it into the *Lees* or *Leighs* family; in which it continued till the reign of *Henry the eighth*, when it was conveyed by *Margaret* and *Agnes Leighs* to their husbands, *John* and *Christopher Allen*, two brothers;‡ of whom it was purchased by sir *Richard Rich*, who dying in 1566, was succeeded by his son, *Robert lord Rich*, who, on his death in 1580, left it to his son, *Robert lord Rich*; and he sold this estate to *John Green*;

* The rev. Ed. R. Earle, of *Moreton*, has supplied the Editor with correct and important information, for which his most grateful acknowledgment is due.

† It contains six hundred and one acres, one rood, twenty-five perches. Of this, thirty-seven acres are included in the glebe and church-yard: thirteen acres, one rood, twenty-five perches in a pasture, known anciently as *Shelley Pond*, now as *Shelley Common*, and belongs to seven copyholds of the manor, in equal proportions: and thirteen acres, one rood, twenty-four perches, are in roads and waste: the remainder in private estates. The soil of this parish contains a large proportion of a light-coloured marly clay, and has some good arable land. Average annual produce per acre—wheat 24, barley 36 bushels.

‡ *John de Leighs* died in possession of this estate in 1301, as did *Thomas de Leigh* in 1404, succeeded in 1422 by *Thomas*, his son, who died in 1439; whose son of the same name dying in 1509, left his grandson, *Giles Leighs*, esq. his heir; whose two daughters were his heiresses, on his death in 1538. Arms of *Leigh*: On a chevron, three bezants.

who by his wife Katharine, daughter of John Wright, had thirteen children, and lived to see their issue and descendants increased to a hundred and eleven; he dying in 1595, aged eighty-nine years; his wife in 1596, aged seventy-one. Their sixth son, Robert, held this estate in fee-tail; and died in 1624, four days after the death of his wife Frideswid, with whom he had lived fifty-two years, and had by her twelve sons. John Green, their eldest son, married Agnes, daughter of William Hunt, by whom he had two sons and four daughters: Robert, the eldest son, had John Green, his son and heir, who married Sarah, daughter of Edward Hadesley, of Great Canfield; and had by her John, living in 1664. His son, Hadesley Green, gent. died in 1699, leaving a son, who died under age; and two daughters, his co-heiresses.* Sarah, one of these, was married, first, to Bernard Cotterel, of London, silkman; afterwards to John Baker, of Blackmore, gent., by whom he had John, father of Bernard Baker. The other daughter was Mary, married to the rev. Andrew Trebeck, rector of St. George's, Hanover-square; who had by her James, rector of this parish, and vicar of Chiswick, in Middlesex: and a daughter, married to the right rev. Thomas Newton, lord bishop of Bristol. Of the rev. James Trebeck, this estate was purchased by — Richards, yeoman; on whose decease, his successor was his nephew, Edward Kimpton, clerk, vicar of Rogate, in Sussex; whose son, Harvey Kimpton, esq. succeeded to this estate on his father's decease; and it was purchased of his representatives by James Tomlinson, esq. the present possessor, formerly a solicitor in London.

After Shelley Hall, the largest estate in the parish is possessed by John Bramston Stane, clerk, of Forest Hall, in High Ongar, a younger son of Thomas Berney Bramston, esq. of Skreens, in Roxwell. It consists of New Barns farm, of which Mr. Bramston Stane became possessed as devisee, under the will of Mrs. Alice Westbrook, formerly Stane, of Forest Hall; it also includes Boarded Barns farm, which he acquired by purchase from the representatives of Mr. Daniel Miller, yeoman.

Shelley Bridge farm is the property of Thomas White, esq. of Weathersfield.

Mold's farm was the property, during the latter part of the eighteenth century, of Mr. James Gibson, yeoman, who left it to his nephew, Mr. Samuel Playle, yeoman, now deceased: it has been sold to James Tomlinson, of Shelley Hall, and to Capel Cure, of Blake Hall, in Bobbingworth, esquires.

Brundish Hall was a mansion-house of considerable extent and antiquity, on the confines of the parish, towards Moreton. The noble moat, around most of the premises, yet remains, as does a small part of the old house, now converted into a farmhouse. By agreement between the parishes of Shelley and Moreton, it was determined that the whole of this farm-house should be considered as in the latter parish. Anciently, the two parishes divided at the entrance end of the great hall. The farm is

New
Barns.Boarded
Barns.Shelley
Bridge
farm.
Mold's
farm.Brundish
Hall.

* Arms of Greene: Argent, a cross engrailed.—*Morant*.

BOOK II. now the property of Mr. John Chaplin, of Shank's Mill, miller, who purchased it of Mr. Eve, yeoman.*

Shelley
House.

Shelley House is a handsome dwelling, upon a moderate scale, now the residence and property of William Crew, esq. who succeeded to it in right of his wife, a relative of — Evans, esq. deceased, long an inhabitant of Shelley.

Parsonage

The parsonage-house is an ancient building, timber-framed, of lath and plaster, upon which considerable sums have been expended by the present incumbent; the situation is very retired, and with its pleasant garden forms an agreeable residence; in the last century it was chosen as a quiet retreat by the learned Dr. Thomas Newton, bishop of Bristol, the well-known writer upon the Prophecies.†

Church.

The church was a small ancient building, dedicated to St. Peter, consisting of a nave and chancel of stone, with a wooden turret. Toward the close of the last century, it became dilapidated, and in 1800, was deemed unsafe. No divine service, accordingly, was performed in the parish until 1811, when a small and neat, but plain brick church was erected, chiefly by subscription, on the old foundations.‡ The living is a rectory, of which the advowson has been usually appended to the manor. No doubt some early lord founded and endowed the church. The advowson was pur-

* In 1349, Nicholas Brundishe died holding lands here, and in the neighbouring parishes, and left his son John his heir. Sir Richard Rich, on his decease in 1566, had this possession, which passed to his descendants, earls of Warwick; and afterwards belonged to John Lingard, esq. common serjeant of the city of London; on whose death, in 1729, it became the inheritance of his three daughters, co-heiresses.

† The Trebeck family, his relations by marriage, then occupying this old parsonage. This eminent prelate died in 1782; after which his miscellaneous works were published, with memoirs of his life, written by himself.

Inscrip-
tions.

‡ Inscriptions.—In the old church there were several monuments on the Green family; of these, part of the originals, or copies, have been preserved. In the chancel, against the east wall, a small monument in stone, with the effigies of a man, his wife, and their two sons, and four daughters, has the following inscription: "Here lyeth buried the body of Mrs. Agnis Greene, the daughter of Mr. William Hynt, and wife of Mr. John Greene, gent., who had by him two sons and four daughters; she departed this life 26th Sept. 1626.

" With me might perish what men virtue call,
If virtue were not seed celestiall."

On the floor of the chancel, partly hidden by the communion rails, is a brass plate, bearing arms, three bucks trippant (the usual coat of Green), probably of a member of the family of Greene, and an imperfect inscription, "To the memory of, who departed this life, December 8th, 1609, in his 36th year."

On a brass plate, in ancient characters: "Here lyeth the bodye of John Greene, being of the age of eighty-nine, and had issue of his body by Katherun his wyffe, daughter of John Wright, children xliitenc, and the issue of their too bodyes weare one hundred and elcaven in their lyves time, which John deceased the xviiiith of November, 1595, and the sayd Katherun deceased the 1 day of January, being of the age of seventy-one yeares."

" Fridswid Greene, wife of Robert Greene, with whom she lived fifty-two years; by whom she had issue twelve sons. She died Aug. 15, 1624, aged sixty-seven."

Charities.

Benefactors.—In 1817, Harvey Kimpton, esq. late of Shelley Hall, left by will one hundred pounds to the

chased by James Tomlinson, esq. when he acquired Shelley Hall. The present incumbent was instituted in 1812.

CHAP.
XI.

William Bullock, esq. the liberal benefactor of this parish, resided, during the latter part of his life at Shelley House, and was a person of rare excellence: he had been for thirty-seven years clerk of the peace for the county, and was formerly a solicitor in London: after his settlement at Shelley, he was in the habit of distributing coals and food to all the poor inhabitants of the parish every Christmas. This distribution he desired to have continued after his death, although verbally he expressed a wish to the then rector that this matter should be hereafter determined, as he and his successors might see fit. Mr. Bullock was the son of Dr. Bullock, prebendary of Westminster, whose father was owner of Faulkbourn Hall.

William
Bullock,
esq.

In 1821, this parish contained one hundred and seventy-nine, and in 1831, one hundred and sixty-three inhabitants.*

BOBBINGWORTH.

This parish extends from North Weald to Shelley eastward: being at a distance from the great roads, and thinly inhabited, it is chiefly confined to the business of agriculture; its surface is uneven, and in many parts presents very luxuriant and pleasing, though not extensive prospects. In records the name is written Bobbingford, in Domesday, Bubbingeorda, vulgarly Bovinger. The village surrounds a pleasant green, and is distant from Epping five, and from London twenty-two miles.

Bobbing-
worth.

Two freemen held this parish in the time of the Confessor, and at the survey it belonged to Ralph, brother of Ilger. It contains two manors.

Bobbingworth Hall is a short distance south-westward from the church: after Ralph, the next name that occurs in records as owner of this estate is Henry Spigurnell, who died in 1328, supposed the son or grandson of Edmund Spigurnell, who had the manor of Stondon in 1295: sir Thomas, the son of Henry Spigurnell, was lord of Dagew, or Deux Hall, in Lambourn, and in 1339, granted to Robert de Hackney, and his wife Katharine, this manor, and all his tenements in High Aungre: in 1423, it was purchased by sir John Asheles; and afterwards sold by William Asheles, of Thaxted, to John de Vere, earl of Oxford, sir Reginald West, Nicholas Thorley, Richard Wentworth, and Richard Arden; and these, in 1446, conveyed the premises

Bobbing
worth
Hall.

poor of this parish; the proceeds of such sum to be distributed at the discretion of the overseers for the time being. After the legacy duty was paid, this sum purchased one hundred and ten pounds, five shillings, and two-pence three per cent. stock, yielding an annual income of three pounds six shillings.

In 1822, William Bullock, esq. being then within a few days of his death, gave by a deed of gift three hundred and thirty-six pounds, six shillings, and eight pence three per cent. stock, to the poor of this parish: the proceeds of such sum being ten pounds per annum, which was to be distributed to the poor inhabitants, at the discretion of the rector.

* The Editor gratefully acknowledges the kindness of the rev. H. Soames, in favouring him with a complete and correct account of this parish.

BOOK II. to sir Thomas Tyrell, sir Peter Arden, and others, which, in 1446, were purchased by Walter Writell, esq.* sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire, in 1469 and 1471; who dying in 1475, was buried in this church, with his wife Katharine. In 1507, John, son and heir of John Writell, died in possession of this estate; and in 1510, a partition was made of it between James and Eleanor Walsingham, and Edward and Griseld Waldegrave, the females being co-heiresses of Writell; in 1575, another partition took place, between James Walsingham and his wife, and John Rochester and his wife, whereby the presentation to the living became alternate. The part belonging to Rochester was the Hall, which, in 1586, was purchased by John Pool; whose son and heir John, died in 1633, and was succeeded by his brother Richard, whose descendants lived in the Hall till 1708. Walsingham's part, which consisted only of land, was purchased of sir Thomas and sir Andrew Walsingham, by Robert Bourne, of Blake Hall, and the two moieties were afterwards purchased by the Houblon family; and now belong to John Archer Houblon, esq.

Blake
Hall.

Blake Hall is half a mile south-east from the church. This manor was originally holden of the honour of Clare, formerly by Robert de Hastings, of the honour of Marescall, then by John de Londres. In 1420, it belonged to sir Robert Brent, whose heiress was his sister Joan, wife of John Trethoke. It afterwards belonged to — Thompson; and to sir William Capel in 1516, who held it of Katharine, queen of England, as of her honour of Clare. Afterwards it passed successively to sir Richard Rich, to John Waylet, who sold it to John Glascock in 1592; of whom it was purchased, in 1598, by Robert Bourne, gent., son of William Bourne, who had lands and tenements in this parish, and, dying in 1581, was buried in this church.† In 1709, two co-heiresses of the family of Bourne sold this estate to John Clark, esq. who

* He was of a very ancient family, descended from Ralph Fitz-Ralph, esq., to whom Margaret, countess of Galloway, gave the manor of Writell, in this county, from which he took his surname; his son, Pierce de Writell, by Mabel, daughter and heiress of sir Stephen Boys, had Walter Writell; who marrying Katharine, daughter of Alexander Walden, had Hugh; and he by his wife Margaret, daughter of sir John Norford, had Ralph, who married Anne, daughter of Thomas Bretton; Ralph Writell was their son and heir, and by his wife Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Robert Ramsey, esq. left Ralph Writell, esq. of Bobbingworth, who married Katharine, daughter of Thomas Boston, and had by her John, father of John, who died in 1485, without issue: John, the father, had also three daughters; Griseld, married, first, to John Rochester, afterwards to Edward Waldegrave; Lora, wife of John Waldegrave; and Eleanor, of James Walsingham.—Arms of Writell: Sable, on a bend, argent, a bendlet wavy of the first: in chief, a cross crosslet fitché.

† Robert, his second son, lord of this manor, married Katharine, daughter of Henry Medley, esq. of Tiltey abbey, who died in 1645, leaving five sons and six daughters; of these, Mary was married to William Chapman, of London, merchant; Margaretta became the wife of William or Nicholas Cowper, of the same place; and Elizabeth was married to Richard Glascock, of Down Hall, in Hatfield Broadoak. Robert, the father, died in 1639; and Robert, the second son, married Rose, daughter of Humphrey Walcot, esq. of Shropshire, and, dying in 1665, left his only daughter Katharine, his heiress, who was married to lord Digby, but died without issue, leaving Dorothy Thompson and Anne Fowler, daughters of his sister Margaret Cowper, his co-heiresses.—Arms of Bourne: Argent, a chevron double cotised, gules, between three lions rampant, sable. Crest: a lion sejant sable, holding up his right foot, maned, or.

married Elizabeth, daughter of sir Richard Haddock, knt., and had by her Richard Clark, esq. who married Anne, sister of Thomas Fitch, esq. of Danbury.

C H A P.
XI.

· The mansion of Blake Hall is now the seat of Capel Cure, esq.

An estate named Bobbingford, and also Monks, extends into this parish, High and Castle Ongar, Stanford Rivers, and Shelley: in 1496, it belonged to Joan Biddlesdon. In 1639, Thomas, Richard, and John Pool, for themselves and others, lords of Bobbingworth Hall, paid a composition to the king's commissioners for disforesting four hundred and eighty-one acres of land in this parish.

Bobbing-
ford.

The church, which is at some distance from the village, is, in the central part, comparatively of modern appearance, and of brick; the chancel is more ancient; and the east window is a good specimen of the decorated style of architecture; the steeple and steeple end of the building is of wood. It is dedicated to St. Germain.*

Church.

The rectory has a glebe of several acres.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to two hundred and seventy-seven, and in 1831, to precisely the same number.

NORTH WEALD.

The Saxon and old English word, *peald*, *wald*, *wold*, or *wolt*, means wood; and the appellative North, is given to this parish as being near the northern extremity of the hundred; and to distinguish it from the parish of South Weald, in the hundred of Chafford. This parish has also been named Nether Weld; and the name of Basset, applied to it, was derived from ancient proprietors: it is not mentioned in Domesday, unless it be what is there named Astoca, and placed between Greensted and Kelvedon

North-
Weald.

* Monumental antiquities.—Within the communion rails are the following inscriptions, on the family of Bourne, on brass, in old English characters: "In mortem, Guilielmi Bourni, generosi Tetrastichon. Hic tegitur Bournus, dum vixit charus amicis nunc divūm socius calicolumque comes, mors pretiosa deo sanctorum mæsta malorum, transitus ad vitam que sine morte manet. Obiit 18 die Maii, An. Dmi. 1581." —"Tetrastich on the death of William Bourn, esq.—Here is buried Bourn, who was, while alive, beloved by his friends, how associated with the saints and a partaker in heaven. Death, when of the saints, grateful to God, when of the wicked, grievous, is the passage to a life which is immortal. He died the 18th of May, A.D. 1581."

Inscrip-
tions.

"In hopes of a joyful resurrection, lies interred the body of Robert Bourne, esq. who married Katharine, ye daughter of Henry Medeley, esq., by whom he had issue five sonnes and six daughters; who, after he had attained ye age of seventy-eight years, with alacritie of spirit, surrendered his soule into ye hands of his Redeemer, the 10th of May, 1639."

"Here lyeth interred the body of Katharine Bourne, the wife of Robert Bourne, esq. and daughter of Henry Medley, esq., and after she had attained to the age of eighty years, surrendered her soule into the hands of her Redeemer, the 26th of April, 1645."

"Here lyeth interred ye body of Rose Bourne, the wife of Robert Bourne, esq., the daughter of Humfrey Walcot, of Walcot, in Shropshire, esq., and after she had attained to the age of fifty years, surrendered her soule into the hands of her Redeemer, the 6th March, 1653."

"Here lyeth ye body of Robert Bourne, esq. who married Rose Walcot, daughter of Humfrey Walcot,

BOOK II. **Hatch.** The soil of this agricultural parish is heavy, but rich and productive;* it has a considerable portion of common-ground. Distant from Epping three, and from London twenty miles. There are three manors.

Manor.

In the time of Henry the second, the manor of North Weald belonged to Henry de Essex, who gave it to his youngest son Hugh; whose son Baldwin granted it to Philip Basset, and the lady Ella, his second wife. After his death, in 1271, Alivia, his daughter and heiress by his first wife, held this manor: she was married, first, to Roger Bigot, and afterwards to Hugh le Despenser; and Hugh le Despenser, her son, held this estate of John de Bensted in 1324. But Roger Bigot giving up his estates to the crown, Edward the second granted this, among the rest, to Edmund Plantagenet, his brother, earl of Kent, to hold by the yearly gift of a sparrow-hawk; and the earl, endeavouring to release the said king his brother from imprisonment, was himself beheaded in 1330; and this estate was given to Bartholomew de Burghersh for life. Afterwards the sentence of the earl being reversed, his son, John Plantagenet, earl of Kent, enjoyed this estate, as parcel of his earldom, till 1352, when, dying without issue, it descended to his sister Joan, "the Fair Maid of Kent," married, first, to William Montacute, earl of Salisbury, next to Thomas Holland, earl of Kent, and, lastly, to Edward the Black Prince. On her death, in 1385, it descended to her son, Thomas Holland, earl of Kent, and his widow held it at the time of her decease in 1416; as did also Lucy de Visconti, widow of Edmund Holland, earl of Kent, in 1424: his sister conveyed it by marriage to her husband, Thomas Montacute, earl of Salisbury, who died in 1428, when it passed to lady Alice, the daughter of his wife, who was married to Richard Neville, earl of Salisbury; Richard, her son, earl of Salisbury and Warwick, was slain in the battle of Barnet Field, in 1471; and his eldest daughter and co-heiress, Isabel, wife of George Plantagenet, duke of Clarence, had this possession at the time of her decease, in 1476; it then became the inheritance of Margaret Plantagenet, their daughter, widow of sir Richard Pole, and on the tragical death of this unfortunate lady, it passed to the crown. In 1543, it was granted to Richard Higham; who, in 1544,

esq., and had issue by her Alice, who was married to ye honorable John lord Digby; which Robert departed this life ye 24th of Feb. Anno Domini, 1665."

On the chancel floor: "Here lyeth ye body of Dorothy Cowper, ye wife of Nicholas Cowper, gent., and daughter of Thomas Ellis, gent. who departed this life ye 22d of March, Anno Domini, 1660."

"Here also lyeth the body of Nicholas Cowper, gent. who departed this life, Feb. 4th, 1674."

"Here lyeth the body of John Cowper, gent. son of Nicholas Cowper, and Dorothy his wife, who departed July 7th, 1701."

"Dorothea et Anna, defuncti sorores et asse cohaeredes maestissime possuere."

Against the wall: "Mrs. Mary King, died 23d February, 1620, aged eighty-five. A lady of sincere piety, exemplary life, and true Christian benevolence."

"To the memory of William Brown, gent. who died 18th May, 1581. Also, of William Chapman, who died Sept. 14, 1687."

* Average annual produce per acre;—wheat 26, barley 36 bushels.

sold it to sir Richard Rich, and he, in 1554, conveyed it to his second son, sir Hugh Rich, from whom it descended to Robert lord Rich in 1580, and to his son, Robert, earl of Warwick, who died in 1619. It passed from this noble family to that of Cheke, of Pirgo: Letitia, widow of Thomas Cheke, esq. had it at the time of her decease, in 1722; Anne, lady Tipping, died possessed of it in 1728; and it became the inheritance of her youngest daughter Katharine, married to the right hon. Thomas lord Archer. The mansion is half a mile west from the church; it had formerly a free chapel in the disposal of the lord, and a park, where inclosures have yet retained the name of Park Fields.

The manor of Marshals has been named from Roger Bigot, earl marshal, first husband of Alivia Basset. The mansion was inclosed in a moat, but has been destroyed. Sir William Fitz-William, knt. who died in 1534, had this estate, and his son William was his heir: a family named Larder succeeded, of whom Walter Larder, and his wife and children, were buried here. This estate was also in possession of the Seafle family, previous to its becoming the property of John Archer, esq. of Coopersale.

Marshals.

The manor named Cawnes, in 1480, belonged to Thomas Danvers, esq. and was in the same year purchased, with the manor of Norton Mandeville, by Merton College; four hundred pounds of the purchase-money being the gift of Thomas Kemp, bishop of London.

Cawnes,
or Caunes.

In records, a manor named Paris is stated to have extended into this parish, but the chief part of it lies in Harlow, Latton, and Theydon Gernon: it belonged to John Writell, esq., and, as well as the manor of Hubert's Hall, in Harlow, was in possession of the Shaa family. Alice, daughter of Edward Shaa, conveyed it in marriage to her husband, William Paley, esq. who, at the time of his death, in 1587, held it of George Colt, esq. Sir John Paley, his son, died possessed of it in 1593, leaving William Paley, esq. his son and heir. It was afterwards purchased of this family by Mr. Fuller, clothier, of Coggeshall, from whom it descended to his posterity.

Paris.

An estate named Wheelers, half a mile south-west from the church, formerly belonged to the rev. Simon Lynch,* vicar of this parish; and his daughter sold it to Mr. John Searle.†

Wheelers.

Haslingwood and Thornwood are two considerable hamlets in this parish.

* This gentleman was born at Staple, in Kent, in 1562; instituted to this living in 1592, and enjoyed it till 1656, nearly sixty-four years. He died at the age of ninety-four, having lived sixty-one years with his wife, Elizabeth Seane, by whom he had ten children, and yet by good management he provided well for them all. Bishop Aylmer, his kinsman, gave him this living, at that time not worth fifty pounds a year, and pleasantly said to him, "Cousin, play with this a while, till a better come." The bishop afterwards offered him South Weald, three times better than this: to whom Mr. Lynch answered, with a pun, that he preferred the weal of his parishioners to any other weal whatsoever.—*Fuller's Worthies in Essex*, p. 537.

† Arms of Searle: Per pale, sable and argent. Crest: A flaming castle.

BOOK II.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a small ancient building, with a nave, south aisle and chancel; at the upper end of the south aisle there is a small chapel, and a strong tower of brick contains five bells.*

This church, by the name of Walde, with the patronage, and all its appertences,

Monu-
mental
inscrip-
tions.

* Monumental inscriptions: On a flat cover-stone of a tomb, elevated by several courses of brick-work, are some well-executed brasses, in good preservation: on the dexter side, the effigy of a gentleman habited in a cloak reaching to the knees, with breeches, stockings, and high-heeled shoes with roses. On the sinister side, his lady, attired in a hat with small conical crown, a ruff, and richly ornamented apron; in the centre a shield of arms, quarterly one and six:.... Ermine three piles, on each as many roundels—the arms of Larder.... Two.... a chevron ermine between three pine apples—Pine.... Three, a bend engrailed, between three leopards' faces, jessant de lis—Copleston.... Four, ermine, on a cross, five roundels.... Five.... two bars.... between nine martlets, three, three, two, and one.... impaling.... on a chevron.... between three wolves' heads erased.... as many crescents ermine; on a canton a pheon—Nicholls. Beneath the principal figures the following inscription, and the effigies of three sons, one of them as defunct, and two daughters.

"Here under lieth the bodie of Walter Larder.... Marie his lovinge wife, three sones, viz. Walter.... Samvel post mortem natvs and two daughters, vi.... Ann.... he died the 23th day Avgvst, Anno Dni 16...."

It is highly probable, from the quarterings of the arms upon this monument, that the Walter Larder here interred, was descended from the Larders of Upton Pine, in Devonshire. In sir William Pole's *Collections* for a History of that County, is the following notice of Pine and Larder: "Braunford Pine, otherwise Upton Pine, the longe contynewed dwellinge of the family of Pyne: Herbert de Pino held this lande in Kinge Henry i. tyme, untoc whom lineally succeeded Simon, Herbert, Simon, sir Herbért, sir Herbert, John, William, Edmund, and Nicholas, which had issue Constance, wife of William Larder, father of Edmond, father of Tristram, father of Lewes, the father of Humfry, which had issue.... wife of Antony Copleston, who dwelleth in this place."—p. 237, ed. 1791. The Larders of Upton Pine removed from that part about the beginning of the seventeenth century.—*Vide Lysons's Mag. Brit. Devonshire*, clxvii. 545.

In the registers of North Weald Basset are the following entries of the families of Larder and Nicholls.

"Baptisms: 1579, Constance, daughter of Mr. Larder, Dec. 10; 1584, Ann, daughter of Andrew Larder, Oct. 6; 1586, Joan, daughter of Andrew Larder, Aug. 30; 1602, Gualter, son of Mr. Gualter Larder, Aug. 22; 1603, Martha, daughter of Mr. Gualter Larder, Oct. 16; 1604, George, son of Gualter Larder; 1605, Ann, daughter of Gualter Larder; 1607, Samuel, son of Gualter Larder.

"Marriages: 1598, Mr. Gualter Larder M^{ries} Marye Nicolls, December 17th.

"Burials: 1592, Andrew Larder, April 24th; 1606, Mr. Gualter Larder, August 27; 1616, George Nicolls, gent. Nov. 13; 1621, Martha Nicolls, widow, Julie 12...."

In the church-yard: "Georgius Helliér, clericus, hic expectat resurrectionem, obiit 14, die Septembris, Ann. Dom. 1729, ætatis suæ 82. Anna, his wife, obiit 17, dii Nov. 1734, ætatis 70. Ann Dore, their daughter, obiit 21, die Aprilis 1735, ætat 30."

"M. S. Lucas Dore, in re forensi procuræ bonis qui natus apud Hinbon parvam, in com. Wilts, Nov. 1688, uxorem duxit Annam supradictam, Jan. 19, 1723, com. Essex, coronator electu, Ap. 6, 1727. Apud Ongar in eodem, com. Variolis abreptus, obiit June 29, 1739. Georgius unicus filius et Hæres. P. H." Arms: A chevron between three mullets pierced, impaling.... fretty.... on a chief.... three roundels.

The registers of this parish commence in 1557. The following names occur among the earliest entries. Spranger; the registers of this family are very numerous: Cakebread, Gladwin, Glascock, Thorogood,

lands, tithes, and obventions, was given, by Cicely de Essex, to the priory of Clerkenwell, in London: this grant was confirmed by her sons, Henry and Hugh de Essex; and by Richard Nigel, bishop of London in 1194. The great tithes were afterwards appropriated to the priory, and a vicarage ordained, with right of presentation in the bishop of London and his successors, who presented without interruption till 1483, when disputes arising between the bishop and the nunnery, an award was made in 1515, by archbishop Warham and chief justice Fineux, that the presentation should be alternate between the bishop of London and the owner of the impropriate tithes. The manor of North Weald had formerly a free chapel, in the disposal of the lord.

In 1821, the number of inhabitants in this parish amounted to eight hundred and twenty-seven, and, in 1831, to eight hundred and eighty-seven.

GREENSTED.

This is a small parish lying between Bobbingworth and Ongar, and to distinguish it from the other parish of the same name near Colchester, is usually called Greensted near Ongar, from which town it is distant one, and from London twenty miles. Greensted

In Edward the confessor's reign, this manor was in the possession of Gotild, and at the time of the survey belonged to Hamo Dapifer; and Serlo held under him forty acres, supposed what three freemen held as a hide, in Saxon times; also Ralph, believed to be De Marci, held half a hide and five acres. Manor of
Greensted

On the death of Hamo Dapifer without issue, his lands descended to his brother, Robert Fitz-Hamo, to whom king William the second gave the honour of Gloucester; he died in 1107, and Maud, or Mabel, his eldest daughter, was married to Robert, natural son of king Henry the first, created earl of Gloucester, to whom she conveyed her uncle Hamo's large inheritance. He died in 1147. It is not certainly known

Searle, Osborne, Nicolls, Luther, and Larder. Among the registers of Spranger—"1674, John Spranger, of Chigwell, buried here."

Charities.—One of the Searle family bequeathed thirty-six bushels of grain, or the value in money, to be distributed to the poor on Ash Wednesday yearly.—Simon Thorowgood, citizen and fishmonger of London, in 1635, left by will fifty pounds, towards building a grammar-school-house in this parish, and gave in trustees an annuity of ten pounds, payable out of his lands called Hart's Grove, in Barking, for instructing the children of this and the adjoining towns next thereunto. Through some bad management, this donation lay dormant above forty years, till 1678, when, by a commission of charitable uses, it was recovered and settled as it now stands. A school is kept, and the endowment well paid.—Mrs. Burrell, widow, of this parish, left, by will, four hundred pounds, in the navy five per cent. bank annuities, to remain there for ever, which was transferred to the minister and churchwardens of North Weald Bassett, for the use and benefit of four aged widows, to receive the dividends half yearly, always remembering that a widow of the name of Burrell is to have the preference. To be chosen by the vicar and churchwardens. Francis Stanley, vicar; Daniel Binckes, and William Kirkby, churchwardens, in 1814.

BOOK II. whether king Stephen took this estate from him, on account of his adherence to his competitor, the empress Maud: however, William, Stephen's son, gave Greensted, together with Cheping Ongar, to Richard de Lucy, from whose family it passed to that of Rivers: after whom it was conveyed to William de la Hay, and to the noble family of Stafford, under whom it was holden by the Bouchier family; and on the premature death of Henry, earl of Essex, in 1540, this, with his other great estates, became the inheritance of his daughter and heiress Anne, married to William lord Parr. Sir Richard Rich, in 1548, 1561, and at the time of his death in 1566, held this manor, which belonged to William Bourne, esq. of Bobbingworth, in 1593, and to the Young family in 1661: from whom it passed to Mr. Gulton, who sold it to Mr. Alexander Cleve, citizen of London. After whom the next possessor was David Rebotier, esq. succeeded by his son, Charles Rebotier, esq.

Greensted Hall is a large handsome mansion, at a short distance from the church eastward, pleasantly situated, with an agreeable view toward Cheping Ongar: it now belongs to the rev. Craven Orde.

Parsonage. The parsonage-house is a handsome building, with a good prospect over the country; it is near the road from Cheping Ongar to Greensted church.

Church. This singular church has attained celebrity from the general supposition that it is one of the most ancient in Great Britain; the nave is formed of the half trunks of oaks, about a foot and a half in diameter, split, and roughly hewn at each end, to let them into a sill at the bottom, and into a plank at the top, where they are fastened with wooden pegs. This is the whole of the original fabric which yet remains entire, though much corroded and worn by long exposure to the weather. It is twenty-nine feet nine inches long, fourteen feet wide, and five feet six inches high, on the sides which supported the primitive roof. On the south side there are sixteen trunks, and two door posts; on the north twenty-one, and two vacancies filled up with plaster. The west-end is built against by a boarded tower, and the east by a chancel of brick; on the south side there is a wooden porch, and both sides are strengthened by brick buttresses; the roof is of later date, and tiled, but rises to a point in the centre, as originally formed. The brick building has a blunt-pointed doorway, with mouldings curiously worked in the brick.

In the account of this church, communicated to the society of antiquaries by Smart Letheuillier, esq. and annexed to a view of it, published many years ago, it is said, the inhabitants have a tradition that the corpse of a king once rested in it. This tradition, Mr. Letheuillier imagined to have been founded on particulars recorded by some of our old writers, and instances the following: in a manuscript preserved in the Lambeth library, entitled "*Vita et Passio Sancti Edmundi*," are passages to this effect: "In the year 1010, and the thirtieth of king Ethelred, St. Edmund, by reason of the invasion of Turkil, the Danisll chief, was taken, by bishop Alwin, to

London; but in the third year following carried back to St. Edmundsbury: a certain person at Stapleford hospitably received his body on its return." Another manuscript, cited in the *Monasticon*, and entitled "*Registrum cœnobii sancti Edmundi*," has this sentence: "*Idem apud Aungre hospitabatur ubi in ejus memoria lignea capella permanet usque hodie;*" *i. e.* "His body was likewise entertained at Aungre, where a wooden chapel, erected to his memory, remains to this day." In the application of these extracts, Mr. Letheullier observes, that the parish of Aungre, or Ongar, adjoins to that of Greensted, where this church is situated; and that the ancient road from London into Suffolk lay through Old Ford, Abridge, Stapleford, Greensted, Dunmow, and Clare, we learn, not only from tradition, but likewise from several remains of it, which are still visible. It seems not improbable, therefore, that this rough and unpolished fabric was first erected as a sort of shrine for the reception of the corpse of St. Edmund, which, in its return from London to Bury, as Lydgate says, in his manuscript life of king Edmund, was carried in a chest: and as we are told, in the register above-mentioned, that it remained afterwards in memory of that removal, so it might, in process of time, with proper additions made to it, be converted into a parish church; for we find by Newcourt, that Simon Peverell succeeded John Lodet, as rector of Greensted Juxta Ongar, in 1328. He says likewise, that Richard de Lucy very probably divided the parishes of Greensted and Aungre, and built the church at Aungre, in the reign of Henry the second.*

A glebe belongs to this parish of twenty-eight acres.

This parish, in 1821, contained one hundred and thirty-one, and, in 1831, one hundred and thirty-four inhabitants.

* In 1548, this church was united to that of Cheping Ongar, by act of parliament, for the alleged reasons that "the profits of the church of Cheping Ongar were not sufficient to find a priest, being not above six pounds in the king's books, and because the charges of the repairs, ornaments, and other accustomed duties to that church, and the church of Grinsted, (which was of the same value or little more, and stood but a quarter of a mile distant from it, and commodious for the access of the parishioners of Ongar,) were much greater than could be raised or borne among such poor parishioners; it was therefore enacted, that the church of Cheping Ongar should be dissolved, and the church of Grinsted made the parish church, as well for the parishioners of Ongar as those of Grinsted; and the advowson of Ongar was therefore invested in the patron of Grinsted, *viz.* the lord Rich, his heirs and assigns." But this union was dissolved by another act, passed in 1554, in the preamble of which it is said, that one William Moris, esq. then patron of the church of Cheping Ongar, and member of parliament, did, by sinister labour and procurement, get the act for the consolidation.

Monumental inscriptions. On the north wall of the chancel: "Here lieth Jone, sister to sir Thomas Smith, of Mont, knt. second wife of Alane Wood, of Snodland, in Kent, gent. who living vertvovsleie sixty-six years, died godly the xxth of Avgvst, 1585.

Monu-
mental
inscrip-
tions.

"Feare thov God, and doe

As thov wouldest be done unto."

Arms: Sable on a fesse dauncettée, between three lions rampant regardant, argent, each supporting an altar, or, flaming pp. nine billets of the field.—Smijth.

Against the south wall: "Prope jacet Richardus Hewyt, A.M. hujus ecclesiæ quondam rector, in villa

BOOK II.

STANFORD RIVERS.

Stanford
Rivers.

This parish is intersected by the road from London to Ongar, and was named from a ford through the Rodon, either naturally stony or paved with stones, and made shallow to save the expense of a bridge, as was sometimes done by the Romans; and the addition of Rivers is from a family of that name, and distinguishes it from Stamford le Hope. Distant from Cheping Ongar three, and from London nineteen miles.

Before the Conquest, this parish was in the possession of Alwin, afterwards of Ingelric, of a freeman, and of the father of Aluric: at the survey it belonged to Eustace, earl of Boulogne; and, at that time, a part of it was called Little Stanford. Maud, grand-daughter to earl Eustace, conveyed it to her husband Stephen, earl of Blois, afterwards king of England, whose son William, earl of Mortain and Surrey, gave this lordship, with those of Cheping Ongar, Greensted, &c. to Richard de Lucy, who, by his wife Rohaise, had Geoffrey, Herbert, Maud, and Rohaise. The offspring of Geoffrey was Richard, who died without issue; and Herbert, the second son, had this estate, who also dying without issue, the inheritance descended to the sisters. Maud de Lucy held it of the king, in his escheatry of the honour of Boulogne; and, in 1213, she was given in marriage, by king John, to Richard de Rivers; by whom she had two sons; Richard, who died before her, and Baldwin. Richard, son of Richard, born in 1238, became possessed of this estate on the death of his grandmother Maud, and was succeeded by John de Rivers, who died in 1293, John, his son, and John, his grandson.

Stanford
Hall.

Stanford Hall is near the church; in 1372, Ralph, earl of Stafford, died in possession of it, whose son and successor was sir Hugh Stafford; who, jointly with his wife Elizabeth, in 1415, demised this manor to John Tyrell and others. Sir Hugh died in 1421, in possession of only a small portion of this estate: but Elizabeth, his widow, re-married to sir Lewis Robessart, had the whole of it till her decease in 1433; and it appears from the inquisitions, that it was afterwards sub-divided into those of Traceys, Botellers, Piggesland, and Brigges, so named from under-tenants, to whom parcels of the manor were demised. The paramount manor was given, by king Edward the fourth, to John Stafford, younger son of Humphrey, created earl of Wiltshire in 1469, and whose widow Constance enjoyed it till her death in 1475,

eccles apud Lancastrienses natus; ubi natus etiam fuit celeberrimus ille Theologiæ doctor Johannes Hewyt, qui ob. fidem Carlo 2^{do}. exulanti nefariâ perduellium sententiâ securi percussus est Rickardus patruo tam illustri nepos non indignus, obiit 26 April, An. dom. 1724."

Mary Smith, wife of Craven Ord, and daughter of John Redman, esquires, both of Greensted Hall; she died March 1st, 1804, aged thirty-nine, leaving seven children.

In the church-yard: "Philippa, the beloved daughter of Alexander and Anne Cleeve, ~~who~~ departed this life November 22, 1728, aged fifteen." Arms: In a lozenge.... on a fesse.... between three.... heads erased.... as many mullets....

and Edward, their son and heir, died in 1499, without issue. Henry and Edward Stafford, dukes of Buckingham, had this estate, which, on their several attainders and executions, passed to the crown, and was granted, by Henry the eighth, in 1524, to William Carey, esq. and Mary his wife. It belonged afterward to William lord Petre, who gave it to his second son, William Petre, esq. born at West Horndon, in 1602.*

The mansion of Bellhouse is half a mile south-west from the church. In records the name is frequently written Gelhouse. Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Philip Malpas, citizen and clothier of London, and widow of sir Thomas Cooke, at the time of her decease in 1484, held this manor of the earl of Wiltshire. Philip was her son and heir; and John Cooke died possessed of it, and of a tenement here called Morells: John was his brother and heir. In 1524, it belonged to Robert Troblefield, and afterwards became the property of the Petre family.

Bellhouse

The two reputed manors of Berwicks and Caunes, or Cadness, were partly in this parish, and partly in Ongar, Matching, Bobbingworth, and Stapleford, and in possession of John Skrene, who died in 1451, and left his son John his heir. They were afterwards holden of the duke of Buckingham by Richard Harper, who died in 1517; George was his son and heir: they have since been incorporated with other estates.

Berwick
and
Caunes.

The mansion of the manor of Littlebury and Roehenhoe is three quarters of a mile eastward from the church, but most of the lands lie in High Ongar. In 1528, Richard Salinge held this manor of Katharine, queen of England, as of her manor of Anstye, parcel of the honour of Clare; Augustine was his son. It afterwards belonged to John Atwood, esq. who married Dorothy, daughter of William Walter, esq. of Wimbledon, in Surrey, whose son and heir was John Atwood, esq. of Bromfield and Gray's Inn, who, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter and co-heir of Patrick Young, esq. had John, William, Elizabeth, and Sarah: the estate was sold by John Atwood to Mrs. Sarah Bull, in 1694, from whom it passed to her descendants, and to — Graves.

Littlebury
and Ro-
chenhoe.

There was formerly a park here, holden of the king, as of the honour of Boulogne, Park.

* He had his education at Exeter College, in Oxford, and at Wadham, founded by his great aunt. Afterwards he went to the inns of court, and having completed his studies, travelled into foreign countries; he translated Ribadeneira's Lives of Saints, from the Spanish, and continued the work to the year 1669; and marrying Lucy, daughter of sir Richard Fermer, knt. had two sons and a daughter, and died in 1677. William, the eldest son, married Anne, daughter of Mr. Caldwell, of Cantes Hall, in Essex, by whom he had two sons and two daughters. William Petre, esq. the eldest son, married, first, Anne, daughter of Robert Poultrrel, esq. of Derbyshire, who died in child-bed. He afterwards married Penelope, daughter of John Walphe, esq. barrister-at-law, by whom he had eight children. William Petre, esq. the eldest son and heir, married a sister of the right honourable James, earl of Derwentwater, and had by her William and Mary, who died before him. He departed this life in 1745.

BOOK II. by Humphrey de Walden, in 1331, and by his nephew and heir, Andrew de Walden, in 1335.

Church.

The church is a plain old building, with a wooden spire, dedicated to St. Margaret.*

This rectory was originally in the gift of the crown, but, in 1558, it was annexed to the dutchy of Lancaster, by queen Mary.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to seven hundred and ninety-two, and, in 1831, to nine hundred and five.

THEYDON.

Theydon.

The Saxon *Deȝndun*, *Theyn's hill*, is probably conjectured to have been originally applied to an extensive lordship, afterwards divided into three parishes: a division which has taken place since the Domesday survey, being there entered under the name of *Taindena* and *Teindana*; in other records written *Teydene*, *Theydon*, *Thedon*. The owners, in the Confessor's reign, had been *Godric*, *Ulmar*, and *Hacun*.

Inscriptions.

* Inscriptions: In ancient characters, on a brass plate: "Before this tabernaculle lyeth buried Thomas Greene, some time bayle of this towne, Margaret, and Margaret hys wyves, which Thomas dyed the 8th day of July, MDXXXV. The which Thomas hath wylled a prest to syng in this church for the space of xx yeares, for hym, his wyves, his children, and all mens soules. And more over he hath wylled an obyte to be kept the 8th day of July, for the terme of xx yeares, for the soules aforesaid, and at every tyme of the said obyte bestowed xxx. of good lawful money of England."

On a brass plate: "Katharine Mulcaster, wife of Richard Mulcaster, by ancient parentage and linnial descent an esquier born; who by the famous queen Elizabeth's prerogative gift, was parson of this church, with whom she lived in marriage fifty yeares, and died the 6th day of August, 1609. A grave woman, a loving wife, a careful nurse, a godlie creature, a saint in heaven in the presence of her God and Saviour, whom she ever dailie and dearelie served."

Memorials of the following persons are in the chancel: "Lucy Petre, daughter of William Petre, esq.; she died Oct. 9, 1637. William Petre, esq. son of William lord Petre, who died Jan. 15, 1677, aged 75. His wife Lucy, daughter of sir Richard Fermer, in Somerton, in Oxfordshire, knt. William Petre, of this parish, esq. who died in 1686; and his wife, who died in 1688."

"William Beckworth, and major John Beckworth."

On a brass plate: "Pray for the soules of Robert Karrow and Alys his wyf, which Robert decessed the xvi day of Avgst, 1506; on whose soulyes Jesu have mercy. Amen."

On the south wall of the church: "Here before lieth Anne Napper, late the wyfe of William Napper, gent. and daughter to William Shelston, esq. who died the 8th day of April, 1584.

"In token of whose verteous lyfe,
And constant sacred love,
And that her memory shoulde remayne

And never hence remove,
Her husband in his tyme of lyffe
This monument did leave his wyffe."

Charities.

Charities.—An annuity of forty shillings, payable out of lands and tenements in St. Botolph's, Aldgate, London, was left to twelve of the poorest inhabitants of this parish, by William Green, citizen and merchant-tailor of London.—And, in 1600, William Petite, of Greensted, left ten shillings yearly for the benefit of poor folks' marriages here and at Greensted, payable out of lands called Knights.

THEYDON MOUNT.

Theydon
Mount.

The division of Theydon occupying the highest ground, has been named Theydon Mount, and extends southward to Stanford Rivers. Distant from Epping three, and from London twenty miles.

Godric held this portion of Theydon before the Conquest; and it was one of the fifty-five lordships given to Suene of Essex; whose castle and chief residence being at Rayleigh, this estate was holden of that honour. Henry de Essex, constable to Henry the second, and hereditary standard-bearer, succeeded Suene, and for cowardice was, in 1163, deprived of all his estates; he left two sons, sir Henry and sir Hugh. In 1210 and 1211, Henry de Theydene had this estate, which he held as three knights' fees of the honour of Rayleigh: it soon afterwards was given to lord Robert de Brus, in exchange for other lands he had yielded to Robert de Wallerand; under whom John de Lexington held this manor; who, in 1250, had licence to make a park here, and, in 1253, to hunt in the forest of Essex. He was chief justice of all the forests north of the Trent, and governor of several castles in the north; also commissioner of the great seal: he died in 1257. Henry de Lexington, bishop of Lincoln, was his brother and heir; who dying in 1258, was succeeded by his nephews and heirs, William de Sutton and Richard de Markham. This manor lying contiguous to Stapleford Tany, Richard de Tany, the younger, obtained a pretended and fraudulent grant of it, and under that pretence seized tenements in this parish belonging to Robert de Sutton; but upon a trial before the king, in 1265, the fraud was discovered, and the Sutton family restored to their estate, which they retained till 1331, when it was granted, with the advowson of the church, by John le Sutton, lord of Dudley, to Henry de Malyns, for twelve years. Edward de Malyns, a nobleman, presented to this living in 1335; as did sir Reginald Malyns in 1361, who died in 1384, holding, jointly with his wife Florence, this manor. Edmund was his son, and the family presented to this living till 1432.

In 1486, Thomas Hampden was in possession of this manor, for the first time named Hill Hall: John was his son and heir; and his grandson, sir John Hampden, died possessed of this estate in 1553: his next heirs were Edward Ferrers, and Anne, wife of William Paulet.

Sir John Hampden married Philippa, daughter of John Wilford, of London, by whom he left no issue; and after his decease, she became the second wife of sir Thomas Smijth; and was jointured in this manor and estate, of which sir Thomas purchased the reversion; but he had no issue by her, nor by his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of William Karkek, or Karkyke, of London.* On his death, in 1577, he was succeeded

* Roger, a natural son of Edward the Black Prince, from the place of his birth named de Clarendon, is the recorded ancestor of the family of Smijth; of whom the first on record was John Smijth, styled cousin-german of king Edward the sixth; and in that king's reign was sent ambassador into Spain. In Smijth family.

BOOK II. in his honours and possessions by his nephew and heir, sir William Smijth, whose descendants have retained this possession to the present time.

Hill Hall. The family seat of Hill Hall is situated on the most pleasant part of the high grounds of Theydon, and in every direction commands beautiful prospects of wide extent. The house is a noble quadrangular erection, with massive walls; the front handsomely ornamented with three-quarter pillars; and a neat cornice extends around

1550, he purchased of the king a chantry in the church of Long Ashton, in Somersetshire, with other lands and hereditaments; and also a guild or fraternity in Walden, then lately dissolved, with lands and possessions there, and in London, which were the same year restored to the town through the interest of sir Thomas, John's eldest son; who was high sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in the 30th of Henry the eighth. He married Agnes, daughter and co-heiress of the ancient family of Charnock, in Lancashire; by whom he had Agnes, Margery, Alice, Jane, Thomas, John, and George. George, the third son, was the father of sir William Smijth, knt. a colonel in Ireland, and married Bridget, daughter of Thomas Fleetwood, esq. of the Vache, in Buckinghamshire, by whom he had his successor, sir William; Thomas, who died without issue, and a second Thomas; also Anne, who died young; Elizabeth, wife of sir William Spring, bart. of Pakenham, in Suffolk; Bridget, wife of sir Robert Joseelyn, knt. of Hyde Hall, in Hertfordshire, ancestor of the present earl Roden; and Frances, wife of sir Matthew Brand, knt. of Moulsey, in Surrey: sir William dying in 1626, was succeeded by his eldest son, sir William Smijth, who married, first, Helegenwagh, daughter of the right hon. Edward viscount Conway, lord baron of Ragley, and secretary of state to king James and Charles the first; by her he had his son Edward, who at the early age of fifteen years, served as a volunteer under prince Rupert, in the civil wars, in which he gained great reputation: he died at the age of twenty-two. There were also two daughters, who died young. Sir William married, secondly, Anne, daughter of — Croft, esq. of Herefordshire, by whom he had no issue; and dying in 1631 was succeeded by his uncle, sir Thomas Smijth, third son of sir William Smijth, created a baronet in 1661. Sir Thomas married, first, Johannah, daughter of sir Edward Altham, knt. of Mark Hall, by whom he had eleven sons and two daughters. Thomas died young; sir Edward was his successor; James married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Parkhurst, knt. of Penford, in Surrey; Charles, of London, a divine; William, a merchant, of London; John, of Langley Lawn, who married Anne, daughter of — Lynch, of Ipswich; by whom he had his daughter Anne, wife of Thomas Miller, esq.; Henry; Leventhorpe, who died young; Altham, a barrister of Gray's-inn; George, and —. Sir Thomas married, secondly, Beatrice, daughter of the right hon. Francis viscount Valentia, and relict of sir John Lloyd, knt. by whom he had no issue: he died in 1668. The succeeding second baronet, sir Edward Smijth, married Jane, daughter of Peter Vandeput, esq., by whom he had four sons and two daughters: he died in 1713, and was succeeded by his only surviving offspring and son, sir Edward Smijth, the third baronet, who married, first, Anne, daughter of the right hon. sir Charles Hedges, of Compton Basset, in Wiltshire, knt. LL.D. judge of the high court of admiralty, one of the secretaries of state to William the third and queen Anne; by whom he had Anne, sir Edward, his successor, sir Charles, successor to his brother, Thomas, Peter, and the rev. sir William, successor to his brother sir Charles. Sir Edward married, secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of John Wood, of London; by whom he had no issue. He died in 1744; and sir Edward Smijth, the fourth baronet, his eldest son, succeeded: he was born at the court of St. James's in 1710, and married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of Thomas Johnson, esq. of Milton Bryant, in Bedfordshire, by whom having no issue, on his decease, in 1760, he was succeeded by his brother, sir Charles Smijth, the fifth baronet, and high sheriff for Essex in 1761; he married Elizabeth, daughter of John Burges, esq., and dying in 1773, left no offspring; he was succeeded by his brother, sir William Smijth, of Hill Hall, and Horeham Hall, the sixth baronet, who was rector of Theydon Mount and Stapleford Tany, and married Abigail, daughter of Andrew Wood, esq. of Shrewsbury, ultimately sole heiress to her brother Richard,



Designed by S. Lacey.

the whole building. The interior is finished in a style of appropriate elegance, exhibiting correct specimens of the four orders of architecture; and in the great hall some remains of ancient armour and arms, with portraits and armorial bearings of the family. The approach from the north, through the park, is by a fine avenue of trees. This stately fabric is on the site of the ancient manor-house, and was begun in 1448, by sir Thomas Smijth, who did not live to finish it, but left provision in his will for that purpose; and considerable alterations have been made by several of his successors.

The church is a handsome small building, dedicated to St. Michael: having been burnt down by lightning, it was rebuilt by the first sir William Smijth, and contains numerous monuments of the family.* Church.

and had by her sir William, his successor, and Charles, a captain in the West Essex militia, who, dying in 1792, left, by his wife Philadelphia, daughter of sir George Vandeput, two daughters. The rev. Richard Smijth, rector of Theydon Mount and Stapleford Tany, was the third son of sir William Smijth, who had also four daughters, Mary, Anne, Emma (who died young), and Elizabeth, married to George Hanfield, esq. a captain in the army, to whom she bore William George, Abigail Elizabeth, John Edward, Thomas Hedges, Shirreff, and Katharine Elizabeth, married to William George Monckton (now lord viscount Galway), eldest son of the late viscount Galway, of Serlby Hall, in Nottinghamshire, by whom he has George Edward Arundel, born in 1805; Charles Gustavus, born in 1806, and Augustus William, born in 1808: sir William died in 1777, and was succeeded by his eldest son, sir William Smijth, of Hill Hall and Horeham Hall, the seventh baronet, born at Shrewsbury in 1746, colonel of the West Essex militia, and one of the verderers of the forest of Waltham. Sir William married Anne, only daughter and co-heiress of John Windham, esq. of Wachen, in Yorkshire, and of Woodmanstone, in Surrey, who assumed the name of Bowyer: lady Smijth is also heiress to the late William Windham, esq. of Earlsham, in Norfolk, her father's elder brother; and of Joseph Windham, esq. her only brother, who died in 1810: by his lady, sir William had William, a captain in the first regiment of guards, who died in 1803; Thomas, born in 1781; John, a captain in the navy, born in 1782; Edward, vicar of Camberwell, born in 1785; and Joseph, a lieutenant in the prince of Wales's light dragoons, born in 1792; the daughters are, Charlotte, born in 1790; and Caroline, born in 1796. On the death of sir William, in 1823, he was succeeded by his brother, sir Thomas Smijth, of Hill Hall and Horeham Hall, the eighth baronet, who died in 1833, and was succeeded by his next brother, sir John Smijth, present and ninth baronet.

* Inscriptions: The effigy of sir Thomas Smijth is placed under an arched canopy, with various emblematical devices, and the following: "Thomas Smijthus, eques auratus hujus manerii dns. cum regis Edvardi sexti; tum Elizabethæ reginæ consiliarius; ac primi nominis secretarius, curundemque principum ad maximos reges legatus, nobilis ordinis garterii concellarius, Arde Australisque Claneboy in Hibernia Colonellus, juris civilis supremo titulo etiam cum adolescens insignitus, orator, mathematicus, philosophus excellentissimus, linguarum Latinæ, Græcæ, Hebraicæ, Gallicæ, etiam Italicæ calantissimus. Proboram et ingeniosorum hominum fautor eximus plurimius commodans, nemini nocens, ab injuriis ulciscendis alienissimus. Deniq. sapientia, pietate, integritate insignis, et in omni vita seu æger seu valens intrepidus mori, cum ætatis suæ 65, annum complevisset in cœdibus suis Montaulensibus 12^o. die Augusti, Anno salutis 1577, pie et suaviter in domino odormivit. Under the effigy: Gloria vitæ contractæ celebrem facit in terræ vicesibus sepultum. Innocuus vixi; si me post funera lædas cœlesti domino factor (aceleste) lues."

Translation: "Sir Thomas Smijth, knight, lord of this manor, privy counsellor and principal secretary of state, both to king Edward the sixth and to queen Elizabeth, and their ambassadors to the greatest kings; chancellor of the most noble order of the garter; colonel of Arda and southern Claneboy in

BOOK II.

Sir Thos.
Smijth.

Sir Thomas Smijth was born at Walden, in 1512; and sent, at the age of fourteen, to Queen's College, Cambridge, where he distinguished himself so much, that he was, along with sir John Cheke, chosen to be king Henry the eighth's scholar; and in 1531, attained a fellowship in his college. In 1533, he was appointed to read the public Greek lecture; and the pronounciation of the Greek language at that time being universally acknowledged to be exceedingly defective, sir Thomas had the honour of introducing an improved mode, which has continued in use to the present time. In 1539, he went abroad, to pursue his studies in foreign universities, and on his return was made regius

Ireland; honoured even when a youth with the highest title of the civil law; a most excellent orator, mathematician, and philosopher; very skilful in the Latin, Greek, Hebrew, French, and Italian languages, a friend of the honest and ingenious man, singularly good, serviceable to many, injurious to none, averse to revenge; in short, remarkable for his wisdom, piety and integrity, and in every part of life, whether sick or well, prepared for death. When he had completed the sixty-fifth year of his age, piously and sweetly slept in the lord, at his seat of Mont Hall, on the 12th day of August, in the year of his salvation 1577. Beneath the effigy: The glory of a short life makes a man famous when buried in the bowels of the earth. In life I have been unblamed, but if after my death thou injurest my fame (wretch) the Almighty will punish thee for so doing. Dame Philippa, his wife, died the 20th day of June, 1578, and lieth with him here buried. Inscribed on the canopy: What yearth, or sea, or skies contayne, what creatures in them be, my minde did seeke to know; the heavens continually. Over the monument, under the family arms, is a Latin motto, of which the following is the English: "Though the poisonous serpent stifle the fire, it will yet shine where it has power to burst forth."

On an elegant monument, with effigies: "To the pious memory of her loved and loving husband, sir William Smijth, of Hill Hall, in the county of Essex, knt. who, till he was thirty years old, followed the wars in Ireland with such approbation, that he was chosen one of the colonels of the army. But his uncle, sir Thomas Smijth, chancellor of Great Britain, and principal secretary of state to two princes, King Edward the sixth and the late queen Elizabeth, of famous memorie, dying, he returned to a full and fair inheritance, and so bent himself to the affairs of the country, that he grew alike famous in the arts of peace as of warre. All offices that sorted with a man of his quality he right worshipfully performed, and died one of the deputy-lieutenants of the shire, a place of no small trust and credit. Bridget, his unfortunate widow, (who during the space of thirty-seven years bore him three sons and four daughters), daughter of Thomas Fleetwood, of the Vache, in the county of Buckingham, esq. and sometime master of the Mint, to allay her languor and longing after so dear a companion of her life, and rather to express her affection than his merit, this monument erected, destining the same to herself, their children, and posterity. He lived years seventy-six, and died Dec. 12, 1626."

There are likewise monuments to the memory of sir William Smijth, knt. who died on the 5th of March, 1631. Sir Thomas Smijth, son of sir William, with his two wives; the lady Joannes, who died in 1658, and the lady Beatrice, who died in 1668. Sir Edward Smijth, bart. who died on the 24th of June, 1713, aged seventy-six. Also his wife, dame Jane, who died Jan. 28, 1720, aged sixty-seven. Sir Edward Smijth, bart. died 16th of August, 1748, aged fifty-seven.

"In memory of sir Edward Smijth, bart. of Hill Hall, who died 4th of March, 1760, and of his lady, who died 22d June, 1770, aged fifty-four. Sir Charles Smijth, bart. who died 24th of April, 1773, aged sixty-one. Sir William Smijth, obt. 25 Jan. 1777, aged fifty-seven. William Smijth, esq. son of sir William and lady Smijth, of Hill Hall, died March 16th, 1803, aged twenty-three years. Sir William Smijth, bart. died 17th of May, 1828, aged seventy-seven, captain in the 40th regiment of foot in 1780; and captain of the West Essex militia. His lady died Dec. 20, 1815, aged sixty."

professor of the civil law at Cambridge: soon after which, he was employed in public affairs; in 1548, received the honour of knighthood; was made minister of state, and several times sent ambassador to France. Sir Thomas, living in retirement at his seat of Hill Hall, was providentially preserved through the dangerous reign of Queen Mary, and when many of those around him were most cruelly burned for the profession of that religion which he held, he escaped, and was saved even in the midst of fire. From this circumstance he is believed to have adopted as a new crest to his coat of arms, "A salamander living in flames." The old crest may be seen on the monument of his sister, in Greensted church.*

But what is most extraordinary is, that he acted his part so dexterously, that even his enemy the pope sheltered him under his bull for many transgressions of his own laws; for, in the year 1555, William Smithwick, esq. of the diocese of Bath, had obtained a very large indulgence from Rome. It was, that he, and any five of his

* The patent granted by garter king at arms to John Smith, gentleman, (father of sir Thomas) for his coat of arms:—

"To al and singular persons, there presente lettin, hearing or seeing, Christ. Barker, esq. alias Garter, principal king of armes of Englishmen, sendeth due and humble recommendations and greeting. Equity willeth and reason ordeigneth that men vertuose and of noble courage be by their merits and good renoume rewarded, and had in perpetual memory for their good name, and to be in all places of honour and wurship among other noble persons accepted and reputed, by shewing of certain ensignes of vertue, honour and gentylnes: to the entent that by their ensample others shuld the more perseverantly enforce themselves to use their tyme in honourable wirkes, and vertuose dedes, to purchase and get the renoume of auncient noblesse, not onely for themselves, but also for ther lynge and posteritie of theym descended, according to ther demerits and valiaunt actions, to be taken furth and reputed among al nobylls and gentylls. And albeyt John Smijthe, of Walden, in the countie of Essex, is descended of honest lignage, and all his auncestors and predecessours hath long continued in nobylite, and beryng armes lawful and convenyent; yet nevertheless he beyng uncertayne thereof, and not willyng to do any (thing) prejudicial to no manner of person, hath requyred and instantlie desyred me the foresaid Garter, to ratifie and confirme unto him, and also to register in my Recorde the true armes and blazon of his seyd auncestours. And therefore I, the foresayd Garter, by vertue, power and authorite of myne office, as principal king of armes, granted, annexed, and attributed by the king our soveraign lord, have appointed and confirmed unto the seyd John Smijthe these armes and crest, with thappurtenances hereafter following, *viz.* sables, a fece dauncye, betwixt three lyonceaux gardant, argent, langes goules, pawing with their lyft pawes upon an autler of gold, flaming and bournynge thereon. Upon the fece, nine bellets of his felde. Upon his crest, an eagle rysing sables, holding in his right cley a pen argent, issuing therout flames of fyer, set upon a wreath argent and azure, mantelles goules, lined argent and azure, botoned gold: to have and to hold to the same John Smijthe, and to his posteryte, with other due difference therein to be revealed to his honour for ever. In wytnes hereof I the foresayd Garter, principal king of armes as abovesayd, hath signed these presents with mine own hand; and thereunto hath set the seal of my office; and also the seal of mine armes. Yeven at London the twelfth day of March, in the yere of our Lord God 1548, and in the thirty-fifth yere of the reign of our sovereign lord king Henry the eighth, by the grace of God King of England, France and Ireland, defendour of the faith, and in erthe of the church of England and Ireland supreme head.—*Cb. alias Garter. Ex original Pat. penes D. Ed.*

BOOK II. friends, whom he should nominate (excepting Regulars, &c.), should enjoy many extraordinary indulgences, upon his petition to the pope, who then was Paul the fourth. Smithwick's selecting sir Thomas for one of the five, no doubt, was a good screen for him in those evil days of persecution: but his safety was also in a great measure owing to the deference that the stern and cruel bishop Gardiner had for his exemplary virtue and his learning: he was struck with admiration of the man, pretending a great love to him; and would swear that he, of all the heretics, deserved only to live, and to be preferred for his deep wisdom and judgment, and the heroic sentiments of his mind. This is elegantly expressed in the poem of the "Muses' Tears," written on occasion of his funeral. He died at his favourite retirement of Hill Hall, on the 12th of August, 1577, in the sixty-fifth year of his age. He was never afraid of death, and died with a pious composure and resignation. Sir Thomas was of a fair, sanguine complexion: his beard, which was large, at the age of thirty-three, was of a yellow, or sandy colour. He had a calm, ingenuous countenance, as appears by his portrait in Hill Hall, painted by Holbein. His abilities and attainments were very great, as a philosopher, physician, chemist, mathematician, linguist, historian, and architect; and he wrote many valuable and learned works.

"Sir Thomas Smith was," says his biographer, "the best scholar of his time; a most admirable philosopher, orator, linguist, and moralist; and from thence it came to pass that he was also a very wise statesman, and a person withal of most unalterable integrity and justice; and a constant embracer of the Reformed religion, in which he made a holy and good end. And, therefore, the English soil, which he so adorned, would be ungrateful, if she should let the memory of such a man pass away and lie in obscurity. As he was all this to the public, so he was an ornament and honour to his house and family, and to the county of Essex, where he was born and educated; where he retired, as often as public business permitted him, and where he quietly resigned his last breath to God.

"His learning, wealth, and honour made him looked upon and admired in the eyes of the world; but he had higher and better qualifications than these, that added a lustre and glory to his character; for his learning was accompanied with religion, and his honour became more illustrious by the excellent accomplishments of his mind. His spirit was brave and great, being a man of a resolute and active mind; faithful and diligent in official situations, and, in his dealings with other men, honourable and generously forbearing: he never sued any man, nor ever was sued. He never raised any rents of his tenants, but contented himself with the old ones; nor heightened any fines, nor ever put out any tenant, nor ever sued any of them. In fine, he possessed a spirit of universal charity and good will, and wished well to all mankind, and a peaceable state to the world, as much as he wished it to himself. And that for this

end, among others, that every man might philosophise freely, and, with the greatest liberty, study to promote truth and useful knowledge.*

CHAP.
XI.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and forty-five, and in 1831, to two hundred and forty-nine.

THEYDON GERONON.

This parish extends from Theydon Mount north-westward to Epping: it has been named Coopersale, from a capital mansion, delightfully situated on the brow of a hill, its name believed to have been originally Cooper's Hall. The surrounding country is distinguished by the fertility of its soil, richly cultivated and embellished with ornamental plantations, surrounding numerous gentlemen's seats and capital houses. The village is small, consisting of straggling houses: distant from Epping one, and from London fifteen miles.

Theydon
Gernon.

This portion of the lordship of Theydon belonged to Ulmar, in the reign of the Confessor; and at the survey had been given to Eudo Dapifer, whose immediate successors in this estate are not known: Paulinus de Theydon, and Henry de Theydon, had this possession in the time of Henry the third; and Paulinus had a fair and a market here. In 1247, Ralph, son of Ralph, and grandson of Matthew (or Anthony) Gernon, died possessed of this lordship, leaving sir William his heir and successor: he was of the council to king Henry the third, and marshal of his household.†

Previous to the year 1345, the general name of Teydene, or Theydon, had been applied to the lordship; but after that period, this portion was written in records Theydon Gernon, and some parts of it called Hemerhales, or Hemnales, and Park Hall, or Gains Park.

Manor of
Theydon
Gernon.

* Sir Thomas was a great projector, and the colonising of Ireland was perhaps the most promising of his speculations: he sent his son Thomas along with a colony, and he was for a time successful, but at last intercepted and slain by a wild Irishman. This attempt cost ten thousand pounds, and, after the death of the projector, was suffered to fall into decay and ruin. There was published on this occasion, "The offer and order given forth by sir Thomas Smijth, knt. and Thomas Smijth, his sonne, unto such as be willing to accompanye the sayde Thomas Smijth, the sonne, in his voyage for inhabiting some parts of the north of Ireland; the payment to begin four years hence, 1576, signed by sir Thomas Smijth's own hand; God save the queen." Among his numerous publications were his "Voyage and Entertainment in Russia;" "The Commonwealth of England;" "The whole Art of Gunnery;" "A valuable and learned Work on the Authority, Form, and Manner of holding Parliaments, &c."—*Strype's Life of sir Thomas, published in 1698.*

† Robert Gernon, one of the Norman chiefs of the Conqueror, had William, who assumed the surname of Montfitchet, and Robert, who retaining the original family name, had Matthew, or according to some of the records, Anthony, living in the reign of king Stephen; by his wife, Hodierna de Saucavilla, he had Ralph, who, by a sister of William Briewer, had sir Ralph Gernon, a judge it is said, who, by his wife, daughter of ———— Basset, had sir William, whose son and heir was Ralph Gernon, from whose son this lordship derived its sub-name. Arms of Gernon: Three piles wavy, gules.

BOOK II.

Adam de Welles,* who died in 1345, held this estate of Thomas Gernon, by the service of seven shillings per annum; and also other lands and tenements: John was his son, whose son of the same name succeeded to this estate in 1360, and died in 1421; and his son Eudo having died before him, his grandson, Leo de Welles, was his successor. He was slain at Towton-field, fighting for king Henry the sixth, and this and his other estates were forfeited to the crown.† By his first wife, Joan, daughter and heiress of sir Robert Waterton, he left Richard, Alianor, wife of Thomas lord Hoo and Hastings; Margaret, married to sir Thomas Dimock; Cecily, married to Robert lord Willoughby; and Katharine, to sir Thomas de la Launde. This estate became afterwards divided.

Garnish
Hall.

The ancient manor-house of Theydon Gernon, about half a mile north-westward from the church, was named Garnish Hall, probably a vulgar pronunciation of Gernon Hall; it is now a farm-house. The estate was in possession of Francis Hampden, esq. in 1507 to 1535, who held it in right of his wife Elizabeth: he was undoubtedly of the family of that name, of Theydon Mount, and was supposed to have left only daughters, co-heiresses; of whom Margery, wife of Edward Bushopp, is understood to have been one; the other being Ellen, wife of John Braunché, whose son, John Braunché, had possession of this estate at the time of his death in 1588. His heirs were Anne Stonly, one of his sisters; William Udall, son of Mary, another of his sisters; and Grace Dorrell, Martha Gelbrand, Joanna Bales, and Mary Berg, daughters of Ellen Rowley, another of his sisters. Anne, by her first husband, Robert Dun,‡ had Daniel, William, M.D., and Samuel. Sir Daniel Dun,§ knt. the eldest son, had this estate at the time of his death in 1617: by Joanna, his wife, daughter of William Aubrey, esq. he had five sons and eleven daughters. John, the eldest son, dying unmarried, Caesar Dun, esq. the second son, inherited this and other family estates: dying in 1634, he left by his wife Mary, daughter of Joseph Haines, esq. Daniel, his son, who married Elizabeth, daughter of John Thornton, esq. of Northampton, and had by her Elizabeth, his only daughter and heiress, married to Ralph Sheldon, esq. of Dickford, in Warwickshire. In 1660, this estate was purchased by sir Robert Abdy, knt. and bart. of Albins, in Stapleford Abbots.

* Adam de Welles, and his successors, were barons of the realm, and summoned to parliament.—*See Dugdale's Summons.*

† Being thus found on the field, a traitor in arms, Edward seized his property, which was given to sir John Crosby, the woolstapler, a zealous Yorkist, who, with a numerous retinue, escorted the king into London. It is understood to have been the son of sir John, who erected the steeple of Theydon Gernon church.

‡ By her second husband, Stonly, she had Dorothy, married to William Dawtrey, of Sussex, and Anne, wife of William Higham.

§ In his epitaph, his name is erroneously inscribed sir Charles, but in the post mortem inquisition he is called Daniel. Arms of Dun: Azure, a wolf rampant argent, charged on the shoulder with an ermine spot.

The name of this estate was derived from a park formed by the inclosure of a wood in this parish, for which inclosure a licence was granted, by king Henry the third, to Ralph Gernon: the hall was two miles north-eastward from the church. This estate was given, by king Edward the fourth, to his daughter Cicely, of York, who was married to John lord Welles, son of Leo de Welles, by Margaret, duchess of Somerset, his second lady; the offspring of this marriage was Elizabeth, who died without children, and Anne Welles, buried in the Augustine Fryers. The lady Cicely, after the death of lord Welles, was married to — Kyme, of Lincolnshire, and had this estate at the time of her decease: she was buried at Quarera, in the Isle of Wight.*

Sir William Fitzwilliam,† alderman of London in 1506, held this estate at the time of his death in 1534, and it afterwards passed from his descendants to several proprietors, and to the earls of Anglesey. It is now the seat of William Coxhead Marsh, esq.

The beautiful seat of Coopersale lies northward from the church, and the house is a stately edifice, on elevated ground, surrounded by lawns and ornamental plantations: it belonged at an early period to the Archer family, who derive themselves from Simon de Bois, one of Henry the fifth's warriors, who was with that prince at the battle of Agincourt, and for his services had a pension of five marks per annum for life. This Simon, at a shooting match at Havering Bower, performed so well, that the king ordered his name to be changed to Archer. The estate continued in this family during many generations,‡ till by Elianor, a female heiress, it was conveyed to her husband, sir Walter Wrottesley, bart. of Wrottesley, in Shropshire, and left by him to a daughter, named Elianor, on whom Mr. Archer, her uncle, settled the

Cooper-
sale.

* History of the Royal Family from the Conquest, 8vo. 1713, page 190.

† He was a merchant-tailor, and having previously been servant to Cardinal Wolsey, after his fall gave him kind entertainment, at his seat at Milton, in Northamptonshire; on which account he was sent for by king Henry the eighth, and asked how he durst entertain so great an enemy to the state? His answer was, "That he had not contemptuously or wilfully done it, but only because he had been his master, and partly the means of his great fortunes;" the king was so pleased with this answer, that, observing he had himself too few such servants, he knighted him. Sir William gave five hundred pounds to mend the highways between Coopersale and Chigwell; also one hundred pounds for poor maids' marriages; forgave all his debtors; and performed several other charitable and commendable actions.—*Stowe's Survey*, ed. 1720, book i. p. 262. Arms of Fitzwilliam: Mascles, eight, argent and gules. The other family of Fitzwilliam bears: Lozengy, argent and gules.—*Morant*.

‡ The successors of Simon were, John, father of John; and Richard. The latter had two sons, of whom the younger was Henry Archer, esq. of this place, who died in 1615, leaving, by Anne his wife, daughter of Simon Crouch, alderman of London, his son and heir, John Archer, born in 1598. He applied himself to the study of the law, rose to the degree of serjeant in 1660, and, in 1663, was one of the judges of the common pleas: he married Eleanor, daughter of sir John Curzon, of Kedleston, and had John and Eleanor. Arms of Archer: Ermine, on a cross sable, a crescent argent. Crest: On a wreath a wivern argent.

BOOK II. estate. She was married to William Eyres, esq. who had by her several children, all of whom died young: for his second wife he had Susan, daughter of sir John Newton, bart. of Barrows-court, in Gloucestershire, and had by her his son and heir, John Archer, esq. who succeeded to this estate. He married Mary, sister of the right hon. earl Fitzwilliam. It is now the residence of Mrs. Houlblon Newton, representative of the Archer family. The mansion has been successively improved and modernised, but the ancient painted ceilings, of superior workmanship, have been carefully preserved.

The elegant mansion of Coopersale Hall has been modernised, and is in the occupation of William Barelay, esq.

Theydon Bower, the pleasant and singular mansion belonging to Richard Taylor, esq. is near the extremity of the parish toward Epping; it is embosomed in an arbour of tall trees, and quite obscured from the view, yet being on elevated ground it commands from the chief front agreeable prospects, considerably diversified.

Church. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is on high ground, with a view over the open country northward: it consists of a nave, north aisle and chancel, over which there is a gallery. A strong square tower contains five bells.*

Inscriptions. * An inscription, in very ancient raised letters, on the outside of the south wall of the tower, on a slab of free stone, appears to have attracted the attention of antiquarians, and has been several times copied: it is much defaced, but is believed to have been originally as follows: "Pray for the soul of syr John Crosbe, knyght, late alderman and grosar of London, and for the souls of dame Anne and Annes (query, Agnes) his wyfis, of whos gudys was gevyn toward the makynge of thys stepyll, on whose souls Jesu have mercy, Amen. Anno Dni 1520;" (in the Bibliotheca Topographica the date is 1420. On the dexter side the arms of Crosby: A chevron ermine between three rams; on the sinister shield the arms of the Grocer's Company: A chevron between nine cloves.

Sir John Crosby's will is dated March 6, 1471, and approved in the prerogative court of Canterbury, Feb. 6, 1475.—*Vide an account of him in Stowe, Strype, and Gough's Sepulchral Monuments.*

On the north wall of the chancel is a monument of grey stone, with a deep cornice or canopy, supported by twisted columns; at the back of the recess are badly executed tropes of a man in armour, and his lady kneeling, with their two sons and three daughters; but the arms and inscriptions are removed.

On the south side of the chancel, directly opposite, is another monument of similar construction, on which no brasses remain.

Against the east wall: "Johannes Archer, miles justiciarius comunium plantorum domino regi Carolo secundo, qui ut summa juris scientiâ ita singulari vitæ integritate claruit; et octavo die februarii anno salutis, millesimo sex centesimo octogessimo-primo et ætat suæ octogessimo-quarto Deo placide animam reddidit. Abi lector et mortis tuæ memor esto."

On a marble slab on the floor: "Sir John Archer, knt. one of his majesties judges of the court of Common Pleas, who departed this life on the 8th day of February, in the year of our Lord 1681, in the eighty-fourth year of his age." Arms: Ermine, a cross engrailed; impaling on a bend, three birds collared.

"To the memory of that worthy and truly religious lady, dame Fitzwilliam, widow, here interred, was Anne, the third daughter of sir William Sidney, of Penshurst, in the county of Kent, knight; she was married to sir William Fitzwilliam, of Milton, in the county of Northampton, knight, who was twice lord deputy, and five times lord justice of the realm of Ireland, and had issue by him two sonnes, viz. William and John, and three daughters, viz. Mary, married to sir Richard Deyer, of Houghton, in the

This parish, in 1821, contained seven hundred and nine, and, in 1831, eight hundred and forty-one inhabitants.

county of Huntingdon, knight; Philip, married to sir Thomas Conesbie, of Hampton Court, in the county of Hereford, knight; and Margaret, married to sir John Beron, of Newstead, in the county of Nottingham. She died at her house in London, in the parish of St. Botolph, Aldersgate, ye 11th daye of June, ano 1602, and was buried here ye 1st daye of July. She has appointed by her will an hospital to be erected in this parish for the perpetual maintenance of fower poor widowes and their successors, and has given to every of them twelve pence a weeke. Give glory to God, and let others by her religious example be stirred up to the like care and provision for the poore."

North wall of the chancel. Under a small arch, over which is written *MORIRE MVNDO VIVAS DEO*, is a brass plate, with an engraved figure of a female, before whom is a stand and a book: above the effigy a shield of arms, and a label inscribed "In God is my trust;" and, at the bottom, the following, in black letter: "Here under lyeth buried the body of Ellyne Branche, late wyffe of John Branche, citizen and merchaunt of London, one of the dawters and hayre of Fravnees Haden, esqvyre, who depected thys psente lyffe with a wyllinge minde, comitynge her body and sovre to ye eternall God, through Jhus Christ our lord, ye 14th Aprill, Ano. 1567." Arms: quarterly one and two, a saltier between four eagles displayed two and three; three piles wavy a chief.

"To the memory of lady Mary Archer, daughter of John earl Fitzwilliam, and wife of John Archer, esq. late of Coopersale, in this parish, and of Welford, in the county of Bucks, who, by his will, ordered this monument to be erected, in memory of a faithful wife and tender mother, by whom he had issue two daughters. She died Sept. 10, 1776, aged fifty." The said John Archer was son of William Eyre, esq. of Home and Hylow, in the county of Derby, by Susannah, daughter of sir John Newton, bart. of Barrs court, in the county of Gloucester, and Thorpe, in the county of Lincoln, who took the name of Archer, and the estates of Coopersale and Welford, by the bequest of John Archer, esq. formerly of this parish. John Archer Houblon, esq. of Hallingbury-place, in this county, grandson of the said John and lady Mary Archer, and only son of the late Jacob Houblon, esq. and of Susannah, their eldest daughter, has erected this monument, in compliance with the will, and in gratitude to the memory of his grandfather's benefactor.

"Donec expurgiscetur à somne, sub hoc marmore hic requiescit quie quid fuit mortale rev. Viri Dni Jacobi Meggs, S.S. theologia prof: et hujus ecclesiæ rect. qui summâ mentis alacritate sub. spe magnâ fidèq. resurgendi christiana novissimum apud adventum Christi servatoris in judicium, obiit Jan. 22, 1672, ætat. 64. Orate veniat regnum tuum." With a shield of arms.

On the south wall: "To the memory of Denton Nicholas, M.D. of the parish of St. Paul's Covent Garden, grandson of sir Edward Nicholas, of West Horseley, Surrey (who was principal secretary of state to king Charles the first and second;) and Jane Nicholas, his wife: by George Nicholas, esq. their youngest son, and Ann Nicholas, his wife, the only child of Dr. William Denton, and Catharine Denton, his wife; he departed this life May 5, 1714, aged forty-nine years, having attained great knowledge in his own profession, and singular skill in most sorts of polite learning." The arms on this monument are effaced.

"To the memory of sir Charles Dun, knt. and dame Joan his wife, who their lives honourably led, in their several seasons Christianly finished. He, worthily borne and learnedly brought up, attained to such perfection of degree and knowledge in the civil laws, that he was honoured by queen Elizabeth with the state of ambassador and office of master of requests, which honour was enlarged by king James, with the order of knighthood, and increase of honourable employments; so that being master of requests, dean of the arches, and judge of the admiralty; long living in great honour, in court and country, he so dyed, the 26th of September, 1617, aged seventy-two. She, the daughter of William Aubrey, doctor of laws, master of requests, and vicar-general, with a turtle-like constancy continuing her honourable life twenty-three years after his decease, finished her course 26 Dec. 1640, aged seventy-two." They had issue five sonnes, and eleven daughters: John, the eldest son, dying unmarried, Cæsar, the next, succeeded (both

BOOK II.

THEYDON BOIS.

Theydon
Bois.

Of the three parishes named Theydon, this with the distinguishing appellation of

interred here) who marrying Mary, daughter of Joseph Haynes, esq. had issue by her four sonnes and two daughters. Daniel, their eldest sonne, now chief of this family, in an obsequious respect to his deserving parents, caused to be erected this monument. When Christ who is our life shall appear, then shall we appear with him in glory. There are three shields of arms.

A handsome marble monument, consisting of a sarcophagus, on each side of which is a boy, representing Life, and Time bearing the appropriate emblems of a reversed torch and an hour-glass; over the sarcophagus is an angel supporting a medallion, on which are the portraits of the deceased and his lady, and beneath, the following inscription: "Near this place are deposited the remains of William Eyre Archer, esq. a man of strict honour and integrity, descended originally from a very ancient family of Highlow, in the county of Derby, and late of Welford Berks, of which county he was sometime one of the representatives in parliament, and also of Coopersale, in Essex, at which place he departed this life June 30, 1739, aged fifty-nine. Near likewise lies interred the body of Susannah Archer, his wife, only daughter of sir John Newton, bart. of Barr's-court, in the county of Gloucester; a woman of exemplary piety and diffusive charity, instructive and amiable in her deportment through all the paths of a religious or social tendency. She died Jan. 28th, 1761, aged sixty-eight." The said William and Susannah Archer left four surviving children, viz. John, married March 21st, 1752, to the lady Mary, third daughter of the right hon. John earl Fitzwilliam, of Milton, in the county of Northampton: Michael, who took upon himself, by act of parliament, the surname of Newton: Susannah, married July 12th, 1751, to the right hon. Edward earl of Oxford and Mortimer: and Katharine. The remains of William, another son, who died in his infancy, were brought from London and deposited by the side of his mother, at the time of her interment. At the top of the monument a shield of arms.

"To the memory of the rev. Strotherd Abdy, A.M. archdeacon of Essex, and twenty-one years rector of this parish; he was the second son of sir William Abdy, bart. late of Cobham, in the county of Surrey, by dame Mary his wife, the only daughter of Philip Strotherd, esq. of Terling, in this county. He died without issue, on the 5th of April, 1773, in the forty-fifth year of his age, having first married Theodosia, the only daughter of sir Robert Abdy, bart. of Albins; afterwards, Harriet, one of the daughters of Peyton Altham, esq. of Markhall, who survived him." Arms: Abdy, impaling Altham.

On the floor of the chancel, there lately was the effigy in brass of a priest, habited in a richly-ornamented cope, without any traces of inscriptions; but, from the arms on the dexter corner of the stone,—six lions rampant, on a canton a star of six points pierced;—it is evident, that it was placed there to the memory of William Kyrkeby, who was rector of St. John the Baptist, London, in 1433, Copford in Essex, 1440, and, at the time of his decease, 1458, possessed the rectories of North Fambridge and Theydon Gernon. This monument has been removed from the floor, and placed against the wall of the chancel, at the expense of the present rector, the rev. C. B. Abdy. The brass has been transferred with great care, and great taste is exhibited in re-setting it. Beneath the figure, Mr. Abdy has placed the following inscription in black letter:

"GULIELMI KYRKEBY, HJUSCE PAROCHIE CIRCETER, A.D. 1458, RECTORIS EFFIGIES."

On a flat stone, near the above, are the brasses of a female, with her six sons and three daughters; of which the contour of the principal figure is very good. This monument, from the cavities still visible in the stone, appears to have also contained the effigy of a man, an inscription, and a shield of arms.

An illegible inscription, on the floor of the chancel, has apparently been for Elizabeth, wife of sir William Waldegrave, of Smallrige, by whom she was the mother of one son and five daughters; she died on the 27th of November, 1556.

An inscription to the memory of Richard Butler, of the Middle Temple, London, gentleman, who de-

Bois, or woody, is the least extensive, and the most southerly in its situation, and is partly in the forest; Hacun and Ulwīn, and seven freemen, had possession of the

parted this life the 5th day of June, Anno Dom. 1688, aged twenty-nine years: there is a shield of arms. Also, with arms: "Sub hoc marmore sunt depositæ reliquæ Dominae, Margareta Meggs et uxoris Jacobi Meggs, S. T. P. et hujus Ecclesiæ Rectoris. Obiit 23d Sept. Anno Christi, 1665, et ætatis suæ 56. Resurgum. Memoriam sacrum summæ spei Juvenum Henrici et Thomæ Meggs filiorum Domini Jacobi Meggs, Sacra Theologiæ Professoris et hujus Ecclesiæ Rectoris, Anno 1670."

"To the memory of the rev. John Nicholas, late rector of this parish, who died the 31st of January, 1721. He was the grandson of sir Edward Nicholas, secretary of state to Charles the first and second; aged forty-eight. He was of an affable and cheerful temper, which made all his other virtues sit easy upon him; his life was strict and exemplary, worthy to be imitated, but difficult to copy after; his death was an affliction to every one but himself." Arms: On a cross a crown, with quarterings. Crest: a lion passant semée of estoils.

Mrs. Jane Wormlayton, late wife of Mr. John Wormlayton, of this parish; she was one of the daughters of Mr. Richard Chase, citizen and grocer, of London; obiit 27th May, Anno 1725, aged forty-seven. Also two of their children; Jane, who died May 5, 1705, aged four months; Anne, August 2, 1712, aged five years.

North aisle.—Mural monument to the memory of Lestock Wilson, esq. of the Grove, who departed this life June 6, 1821, aged sixty-nine years; and of Bonne, his wife, who departed this life Nov. 30, 1818, aged sixty-nine years.

In the church-yard: "Richard Rogers, Woodford Bridge, died 17th Nov. 1735, aged sixty-one; his ancestors having belonged to this parish nearly four hundred years; also Richard Rogers, of Woodford Bridge, died April 27, 1791, aged sixty-six." He bequeathed the interest of one hundred pounds, three per cent. consols, to be applied from time to time in repairing and keeping up the tombs of himself and ancestors in this church-yard for ever. Besides these, there are numerous inscriptions belonging to this family, and also for the family of Bishop.

William Black, of the Grove, near Epping, died 24th February, 1810, aged eighty-two; his wife, Mrs. Elizabeth Black, died Dec. 13, 1793, aged fifty-two; she was the daughter of William Thorley, of Kingston-upon-Hull. Catharine, their daughter, died Feb. 5, 1791, aged sixteen. William Black, grandson of William Black of the Grove, and son of the rev. R. Black, rector of Hutton, in this county, died Aug. 4, 1816, aged sixteen. John Black, eldest son of William Black, died June 7, 1820, aged sixty-two.

Thomas Cain, esq. of Theydon Place, died July 23, 1811, aged seventy. Sir Thomas Coxhead, knt. late of Epping, died Nov. 24, 1811, aged seventy-seven: his arms are on the monument.

Samuel Miller, of Garnish Hall, died in 1803, aged fifty-one; Mary, his wife, died in 1819; and Fanny, their daughter, died in 1822, aged thirty.

John Dickens, esq. died in July 1800, aged seventy-eight.

Of the family of Palmer, Andrew, of this parish, died in 1754; Andrew, son of John Palmer, June..... Jane Palmer, 1765, aged nineteen; John Palmer, Nov. 1, 1766, aged sixty-one; James Palmer, late of Chigwell Row, 1802, aged seventy.

"George Savill, died in 1808, aged seventy-three, forty-six years clerk of this parish:

"Long have I toiled upon this ground,
And here a resting-place I've found."

"Ann, wife of Richard Cook, of Little Park Hall, ob. 1823, aged forty-five:

"A good wife; a sincere friend;
A cancer she had, which brought her to her end."

Henry Archer, esq. of Theydon Gernon, gave to the poor thereof two pounds, and to the poor of Low Layton one pound, yearly, to be distributed every Whitsunday.—John Baker, of Epping, about the tenth

Benefac-
tions.

BOOK II.

Manor of
Theydon
Bois.

lands of this parish in the reign of the Confessor; which at the general survey belonged to Peter de Valoines.* Distant from London, fourteen miles.

The manor of Theydon Bois, in the time of Henry the third, belonged to John de Tany, son of Peter de Tany, who, sometime in that reign, gave it to Waltham Abbey,† which retained possession of it till the dissolution; after which, in 1551, it was granted, by Henry the sixth, to sir Thomas Wroth, of Loughton, who died in 1573; sir Robert Wroth was his son and successor, in this and other very extensive possessions, which, on his decease in 1605, descended to sir Robert his son, who, dying in 1614, left his son and heir, James, an infant; who, on his death in 1616, was succeeded by James Wroth, his father's brother; and he soon afterwards sold the estate to Edward Elrington, esq.‡ who had previously possessed the other manor in this parish, called Birch Hall.

Birch
Hall.

The mansion-house of Birch Hall is on a hill, near the road from Waltham Abbey to Abridge, and had been the residence of the Elrington family, from the time of their having been in possession of the great tithes of this parish: in the year 1656, the representatives of this family sold all their estates here to John Smart,§ merchant, of London; whose descendant, Benjamin Smart, esq., sold it to Robert Meggott, esq., who died in 1721, leaving John, and a daughter, one of whom sold this estate to Smart Letheuillier, esq., of Aldersbrooke, whose heirs, after his decease, sold it to John Hopkins, esq. of Hornchurch; the owner at that time of Theydon Green.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a small ancient building, with a wooden turret and spire: it was given to the priory of St. Bartholomew, in West Smithfield, by William de Bosco, with a charter confirming this grant, by king Henry the third, in 1253. The priory twice presented to it as a rectory, and afterwards had the whole of the tithes appropriated to themselves, consequently making the living a curacy.

of Henry the eighth, left Stonehurst farm to repair the highway from Harlow to London, and for certain acts of piety and charity yearly; and a wood, called Redyns, both in Theydon Gernon, to the churches of Epping and Theydon Gernon; and the will has been equitably construed to be best answered, when the profits were chiefly employed to the uses of the poor, and the churches, in such things as the parish rates would not extend to, and not to the lessening of those rates.—John Reynolds of Ipswich, gent. left to the poor of Theydon Gernon and Epping, for ever, the rents of lands called Thraps, in Theydon Mount.—Thurston Willstanley, of Theydon Gernon, left to the poor thereof for ever, the rents of a tenement called Bulls, in Duck-lane, in the parish of Northweld Bassett.—John Hylard, of London, alderman, gave to the poor of Theydon Gernon fifty pounds, with which were purchased two houses, one in the street, and the other on the common, for the use of the poor.

* In 1106, Osbert de Thaiden held a knight's fee herè, under Robert de Valoines, as did also William de Bosco.

† It is said to have been given by Anthony Bek, bishop of Durham, but probably he only confirmed this donation.

‡ He was chief butler to king Edward the sixth, queen Mary, and queen Elizabeth.

§ Arms of Smart: Argent, a chevron between three pheons sable.

After the dissolution in 1543, the tithes were granted, by Henry the eighth, to Edward Elrington, esq. The living has been augmented by queen Anne's bounty.*

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to four hundred and forty-six, and, in 1831, to six hundred and seventy-six.

LOUGHTON.

This extensive parish is wholly within the forest of Epping, and is bounded eastward by Lambourne, on the south by Chigwell, and by the Theydons on the north. The name in records is Lockton, Loketon, Lucton, Luketone; in Domesday-book, it is entered under Becontree hundred, and named Lochintun.

Loughton

It is one of the seventeen lordships given by earl Harold to his monastery of Waltham, and remained in possession of that house till its dissolution, when it passed to the crown; and, in 1558, queen Mary granted "the lordship and manor of Lucton" to the dutchy of Lancaster.

The village extends nearly two miles on the Epping road, and is distinguished by its numerous genteel houses, and beautiful and picturesque scenery. Debden Green and Bucket Green are surrounded by first-rate houses; and the prospects from Golden-hill House, the residence of Robert Barker, esq. are exceedingly rich and extensive, including nearly the whole of the city of London; from which the village is distant twelve, and from Epping four miles.

* On the south wall of the chancel is a handsome marble monument, with the following inscription: "In hoc sacrario depositum est quicquid mortale fuit de Johanne Marmaduke Grafton Dare, armigero, nuper de domo Cranbrooke in hoc comitatu, qui hanc incertam vitam pro æterna felicitate permutavit die 22^{da} Novembris, anno salutis 1810, ætatis 49^{mo}. Ætate jam florente, miles sese regique patriæque pñitus addixit: maturioribus autem annis omnia munera civilis vitæ feliciter peregit, magisterio officio potitus, ob æquitatem animique acumen sese clarum reddidit. Omnibus mariti patris filii fratrisque officiis summo cum amore et pietate perfunctus est. In amicos denique maxime ingenuus, studioque semper incensus. Ut inscriberetur hæc tabella in testimonium illius virtutum suique plorabilis infortunii curavit Elizabetha Grafton Dare ejus vidua, Henrici Eaton, armigeri, nuper de villa Rainham filia, ex uxore Elizabetha unica, prole Georgii Mildmay, armigeri, de consanguineo genere veteris prosapiæ diu commorantis apud Marks." — "In this sanctuary is deposited all that was mortal of John Marmaduke Grafton Dare, esq. late of Cranbrooke House, in this county, who exchanged this uncertain life for everlasting happiness on the 22d day of November, in the year of grace 1810, aged forty-nine years. In the flower of his age he proved himself a faithful servant to his king and his country. In his riper years, he performed prosperously all the duties of a civil life. As a magistrate he was celebrated for his rectitude and acuteness of mind. He fulfilled all the duties of a husband, father, son, and brother, with the greatest love and affection. To his friends he was most liberal and always attentive. Elizabeth Grafton Dare, his widow, daughter of Henry Eaton, esq. late of Rainham, by his only wife Elizabeth, the daughter of George Mildmay, esq., who belonged to a branch of the ancient family that long resided at Marks, caused this tablet to be inscribed as a testimony of his virtues, and of her lamentable misfortune in his loss."

Inscriptions.

Against the south wall. "Sacred to the memory of Samuel Wild, esq. late of this parish, and of Gloucester-place, Portman-square, who departed this life the 7th of December, 1817, aged sixty-five. An affectionate husband and sincere friend."

BOOK II.

Loughton
Hall.

The manor-house of Loughton Hall is near the church. It is a large irregular building, pleasantly situated: in 1551, it was granted, by Edward the sixth, to sir Thomas Darcy; but, in 1569, had again passed to the crown; and the Wroth family, of Theydon Bois, became possessed of it by the marriage of Susan, daughter of Francis Stonard of this place,* in which family it remained till the year 1718, when sir Henry Wroth, dying without issue,† left this estate, after his wife's decease, to the right hon. William Henry, earl of Rochford; who, in 1745, sold it to William Whitaker, esq. of Lime-street, London, alderman of that ward in 1746, and one of the sheriffs of the city in 1750; on his death, he settled this estate and manor on Anne, his second wife, and, on her decease, on his youngest daughter Anne. He had also a daughter by his first wife, to whom he left a large fortune. In 1688, the princess of Denmark, afterwards queen Anne, retired to Loughton Hall, when she foresaw the misfortunes coming upon her ill-advised father. William Whitaker Maitland, esq. is the present owner of this estate, and lord of the manor.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, was rebuilt in a handsome style, a few years ago, and is very agreeably situated, but is at an inconvenient distance from the village.‡ There is a chapel for dissenters of the Baptist persuasion, and a national school.

This parish, in 1821, contained nine hundred and seventy-nine, and, in 1831, one thousand two hundred and sixty-nine inhabitants.

* The Stonards were a considerable time possessors of this estate. John Stonard was buried here in 1541, with his two wives, Joan and Katharine. George Stonard presented to the rectory in 1554, jointly with Edward Stacy, and was buried here in 1558, as was also his wife. Francis Stonard, one of their sons, died in 1604.

† The Wroth family derive themselves from John Wroth, mayor of London in 1361; Robert Wroth, his son, by —, daughter of sir Thomas Lewkenor, had Thomas, who, by his wife Margaret Newdigate, had Robert Wroth, of Durance, in Enfield: he, by his wife Jane, daughter of Thomas Hawte, had Thomas; Dorothy, married to Edward Lewkenor; and John. Thomas Wroth, by his wife Mary, daughter of sir Robert Rich, had, besides three other sons, sir Robert Wroth, who, by his wife Susan, daughter and heiress of Francis Stonard, of Loughton, had Thomas, who died without issue; Robert; John, of Durance; and Henry, of Woodbury, in Hertfordshire; at the time of his decease, in 1607, he held a messuage with appertinances in this parish, named Buckhurst, of the king, as of his manor of East Greenwich: he was succeeded by his son, sir Robert, who held this estate of the duchy of Lancaster. By his wife Mary, daughter of Robert Sidney, earl of Leicester, he left his son, James, who, dying under age in 1616, was succeeded by his father's brother, John Wroth, esq. of Durance, who married Maud, daughter of Richard Lewellin, widow of Gregory Leonard, and by her had John, who, by his wife Elizabeth, fourth daughter of William, lord Maynard, left John Wroth, esq. one of the verderers of Waltham Forest. He married Elizabeth, daughter of sir Henry Wroth, bart. of Durance, a woman of martial spirit, who attended him in king William's campaigns. He died in 1718, leaving no offspring. Arms of Wroth: Argent, on a bend, sable, three lions, or leopard's heads erased, of the first, crowned, or.

Inscrip-
tions.

‡ On a brass plate in the church, bearing the effigies of a man and his twelve children: "Here lyeth buried the body of William Nodes, gent. who died Feb. 2, 1594, the thirty-seventh yere of the reign of our

CHIGWELL.

This parish occupies the southern extremity of the hundred, and is distinguished by its beautiful rural prospects and woodland scenery, with elegant country-houses belonging to rich London citizens, and splendid gentlemen's seats. The lands of this extensive district are of various descriptions, in a high state of cultivation, and exceedingly productive. According to a survey in 1611, the contents of this parish amounted to two thousand five hundred and twenty-seven acres, and its share of Epping and Hainault forest, both included in what was anciently named Waltham forest, was fifteen hundred acres, or more. In records, the name is written Cingwell, in Saxon, Cingwelle, King's Well, supposed from the well in Chigwell-row, formerly celebrated for its medical properties, being mildly cathartic. In some ancient writings the name is written Cinghewella, Cinguehella, Chiwellia, Chickwell, Gykewell. It is included in the forest of Epping.

The village has a respectable appearance, with many good houses. There is a fair here on the thirtieth of September, chiefly for the hiring of servants. Distant from Epping six, and from London eleven miles.

Chigwell Row is a mile distant from Chigwell, and forms a beautiful and interesting village. There are numerous genteel residences; and a handsome new chapel has lately been erected for the use of the Wesleyan methodists.

There are three manors in this parish. The manor-house of Chigwell Hall is near the church; it belonged to earl Harold, in the time of Edward the confessor, and at the survey formed part of the possessions of Ralph de Limesei, baron of Ulverlei, in Warwickshire, where he had his chief seat. Ralph, his grandson, was his successor; whose son Alan, was the father of Gerard de Limesei, who was the father of John, Alan, Gerard, Amabillia, which three last died without issue, and Basilia; John, by Alice de Harecourt, had his son Hugh, who, dying without issue in 1213, Alianor and Basilia, his two aunts, became his co-heiresses. Alianor was married to David de Lindsey, and Basilia to Hugh de Odingsells. Alan de Limesei, the father, gave this estate to Richard de Luci, and the grant was confirmed by his son, Gerard de Limesei, for which the said Richard gave him three marks of silver; and Geoffrey de Lucy, the son, gave him a gold ring

Chigwell
Hall.

sovereign ladie queen Elizabeth. He had a wyfe, Elizabeth Woolsey, by whom he had issue six sonnes and six daughters."

On a brass plate, with the effigies: "Of your charitie pray for the soules of John Stonnard, and Joan and Katherin hys wyfes, the whyche deceased the xix daye of Juyn, in the yere of God, 1615. On whos soules, and all Christen soules, Jhu have mercy. George Stonard, esq. and Mary his wyfe. Which George deceased Nov. 24, 1558."

On a brass plate in the chancel: "Robert Rampston, of Chynford, in the county of Essex, gent. deceased; as he was careful in his lyfe-time to releave the poore, soe att his ende, by his testament, he gave twenty-two pounds yercly; whereof to the poore of this parish he hath given twenty shillings for ever, to be paid in the month of December. He deceased Aug. 3, 1585."

Charity.

BOOK II.

when he became his liege. Afterwards, Richard de Luci granted Chigwell to Ralph Briton, to hold in fee. The estate afterwards was conveyed to William de Goldingham, whose descendants held it of the lords Fitzwalter; John de Goldingham, under Robert Fitzwalter in 1328; and sir Alexander Goldingham, under Walter Fitzwalter in 1386. It belonged to John Mannock, who died in 1476; and, in 1534, George, his son, with his son William, and his wife Audry, conveyed this with other estates to sir Thomas Audeley, lord chancellor, for Brian Tuke, treasurer of the king's chamber, and others, for the king's use; and, in 1550, it was granted by Edward the sixth, with West Hatch, to sir Thomas Wroth, who died possessed of it in 1573; as did also his son, sir Robert, in 1605; and it continued in this family till 1669, when it was sold to sir William Hicks, of Rockholts; whose son, sir Harry Hicks, in 1720, built a plain brick house here, called the Bowling Green, nearly opposite to West Hatch, in which he died. His eldest son, sir Robert, being blind, he left his estates to Michael, his second son; who, dying in 1764, left them, by will, to his said elder brother, and his two sisters; and, after their decease, to the youngest son of Howe Hickes, esq. of Whitcomb, in Gloucestershire. Sir Harry sold Chigwell Hall and farm to William Davy, esq. treasurer of St. Luke's Hospital; but the Hickes' family retained the manor, and their share in the forest was at least thirteen hundred acres.

West
Hatch.

West Hatch belonged also to the family of Hickes; it was a nominal manor: the house is about three-quarters of a mile south-south-west from the church. This house was the residence of sir William Nutt, and belonged afterwards to James Crockatt, esq. of Luxboroughs: this estate and Buckhurst belonged to Walter Writell in 1475.

Barringtons,
or
Rolls.

The mansion of Barringtons or Rolls, is a handsome modern building, agreeably situated on elevated ground, which commands extensive prospects: it is enclosed in a park. In the time of Edward the confessor, Doth was the name of the proprietor of this estate; which at the survey belonged to Robert Gernon, whose under-tenant was Anshetill. How and at what time it was conveyed to the De Vere family is not known; but in the time of Stephen, or of Henry the second, it was granted, by Alberic de Vere, to sir Humphrey, son of sir Eustace de Barrington; and it remained in that family till the latter part of the sixteenth century.* In 1573, William Tiffin was in possession of this manor, which afterwards passed to the family of Wiseman,

* It appears, from the Feodary of the De Veres, earls of Oxford, that the following persons of the name of Barrington, held this manor under them:—George Barrington, in 1263; William, in 1270; George Barrington, in the reign of Edward the first: Geoffrey, in 1429; John, in 1447; Thomas, in 1466. Margaret, wife of Thomas Barrington, who died in 1479, held this manor jointly with her husband; Humphrey Barrington was their son and heir, and sir Nicholas Barrington, who did homage for this manor at Castle Hedingham, in 1512, held it at the time of his decease in 1515; John Barrington was his son, and held the estate at the time of his death in 1537; Thomas was his son and successor. The names of the two Georges, of William and Geoffrey, in the Feodary referred to, are not found in the pedigree of the

of Great Waltham: Thomas Wiseman, esq. died in possession of it in 1584, leaving Elizabeth, wife of Richard Jennings, and Dorothy Wiseman, his co-heiresses: the reversion of the estate passed to John Wiseman, esq. of Stisted, who died in 1616, and his son Thomas sold it to John Hawkins; and he or his son sold it to Eliab Harvey, in whose descendants it has continued to the present time. It was at one time divided between the families of Harvey and Comyns; but the former purchased the portion belonging to the family of Comyns, which is now extinct.

Wolverston, or Woolston, has the manor-house about a mile and a half north from the church, and seems to have been anciently a distinct parish, or at least a very considerable hamlet, united to Chigwell since the Conquest: a church or chapel formerly belonged to it. In records the name is Ulfelmstun, Wolfamston, Wolfhamestone, Walston, or Woolston, Walthampton, Woolverhampton, Woolvermeston. It

CHAP.
XL.

Wolver-
ston.

Barrington family, from whence it is inferred, that Chigwell was holden by a younger branch, and returned to the elder.

* Thomas Harvey, of Folkstone, in Kent, had, by his wife, Joan Halke, William Harvey, M.D. of Hempstead; Thomas, the father of John Harvey, of Antwerp; John, member of parliament for Hythe in 1640; Daniel, the father of Daniel Harvey, of Combe Nevil, in Surrey, ambassador to the Porte; Eliab, of Bread-street, London; and Matthew and Michael, twins. Matthew Harvey purchased the manor and advowson of Langford, in this county; and died without issue, as did also Thomas and John. The six youngest of these seven brothers were bound apprentice in London, and ultimately becoming considerable merchants, got large fortunes, of which they made their father treasurer; and he, being as skilful in purchasing lands as they were in getting money, lived to see every one of them of far greater estate than himself. Eliab Harvey, the fifth son, was settled at Chigwell, and died in 1661, aged seventy-two, and was buried at Hempsted, as were also his daughters, Sarah and Elizabeth; and Mary, his widow, who died in 1673, aged sixty-seven: his eldest daughter, Mary, was married to sir William Whitmore, bart. of Afley, in Shropshire, and died in 1710. Sir Eliab Harvey, knt. eldest son and heir of the second Eliab, married —, daughter of sir William Whitmore, bart. and had Eliab, who died in 1681; William; Matthew, who died in 1692; and Elizabeth, wife of Edward Harvey, esq. of Combe, she died in 1695. Sir Eliab was member of parliament for the county in 1678, and Burgess for Maldon in 1695, dying in 1698, aged sixty-four; he was buried at Hempsted. William, his eldest surviving son, was member of parliament for the county in 1722; he married Dorothy, only daughter and heiress of sir Robert Dycer, bart. of Uphall, in Braughling, in Hertfordshire; by whom he had William; Eliab, who died young; Dorothy, wife of sir Philip Monoux, bart. of Wootton, in Bedfordshire; Mary, wife of sir Edmund Anderson, bart. of Broughton, in Lincolnshire; and Agnes, married to Pulter Forrester, esq. of Hertfordshire. On the death of his father in 1731, he was succeeded by his eldest son, William Harvey, who married Mary, daughter and co-heiress of Ralph Williamson, esq. of Berwick, in Northumberland, by whom he had William; Eliab, of the king's council, and member of parliament for Dunwich; Edward, major and adjutant-general, also member of parliament for Gatton; William Harvey, the father, had also two daughters. He died in 1742, and was succeeded by William, his eldest son, member of parliament for Essex in 1747, 1754, and 1761. In 1750, he married Emma, daughter of William Skynner, esq. of Walthamstow, by whom, on his death in 1763, he left William, his eldest son and heir, a minor, two other sons, and three daughters. The monument of the celebrated Eliab Harvey is preserved in the cemetery at Hempsted; where memorials of the later representatives of this family have also been placed. Arms of Harvey: Or. on a chief indented sable, three crescents argent.

Harvey
family.

BOOK II. belonged to earl Harold, in the time of the Confessor; and at the survey it formed part of the royal demesnes, and was farmed by the sheriff. It was granted, by Henry the second, to a family surnamed De Sandford, to be holden by the grand sergeancy of finding a damsel to wait in the queen's chamber on the day of her coronation. Alice, daughter and heiress of Gilbert de Sandford, being in ward to Fulk Basset, bishop of London, for which wardship the bishop had given the king one thousand marks; he, in 1248, sold the wardship and marriage of the said Alice to Hugh de Vere, the fourth earl of Oxford, whether she lived or died; and he gave her to his eldest son, Robert de Vere, fifth earl, who in her right added to his other titles that of baron Sandford: by this lady he had Robert, his successor, and Joan, wife of William, eldest son of John Plantagenet, earl of Warren and Surrey; upon whose marriage, in 1284, this and other estates were settled upon them: the husband died in December the following year, leaving his lady with child of his only son John; and her father, the earl, enjoyed this manor till his decease in 1295, at which time it was holden of William de Plomer, the reversion being in the heirs of earl Warren; and, in 1347, John, earl Warren, dying without lawful issue, this and his other estates passed to his sister Alice, married to Edmund Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel, who was beheaded in 1326, but his son Richard was restored in blood, and enjoyed this estate till his death in 1375. Richard, his son, was executed in 1397, leaving a son Thomas, who being restored to his father's honours and estates, held this manor by knight's service. Dying in 1414, without issue, he was succeeded by his three sisters, Elizabeth, wife of sir Gerard Ufflet, (previously having been married to Thomas Moubray, duke of Norfolk, and two other husbands): Joanna, wife of William Beauchamp, lord Bergavenny; and Margaret, wife of sir Rowland Lenthall. He had also another sister, who had previously died; the wife of John Charleton, lord Powis. Portions of this estate were successively in Norman Babington, in 1433, in right of his wife Margaret, descended from one of the sisters of the earl, who died in 1451, whose heiresses were Elizabeth, wife of William Hungate, and Beatrix, wife of Robert Constable. In 1461, John Mowbray, earl of Norfolk, died possessed of a moiety of this manor, whose son John, earl of Warren and Surrey, died in 1497, from whom, being conveyed to John Howard, duke of Norfolk, who was slain at Bosworth-field, and attainted, in 1485 this estate passed to the crown,* and was granted, by Henry the seventh, in the beginning of his reign, to William Scott, esq. of Stapleford Tany, a lineal descendant of sir William Scott,* lord chief

Scott
family.

* William Scott, the grantee of this estate, was the son of sir John Scott, of East Tilbury, and married Margery, daughter and heiress of Thomas Swinborne, esq. of Yorkshire, by whom he had John, William, Edward, John the younger, George, Hugh, Joan, and Elizabeth: dying in 1491, he was buried in Stapleford Tany church, where his wife Margery, who died in 1505, was also buried. Their eldest son, John Scott, sen. his heir and successor, married Margaret, daughter of Thomas Drake, of Berkshire, by whom

justice of England, and justice of the forests in the reign of Edward the third; sergeant-at-law in 1335; justice of the Common Pleas in 1338; justice of the King's Bench in 1340; chief justice of that court in 1341; and chief justice of the Common Pleas in 1342. In 1343, he was again advanced to the King's Bench, and died in 1346: his descendants enjoyed this estate for many generations.

Wolverton, or Woolston Hall, is a handsome modern mansion, the seat of Robert Bodle, esq.

The Grange, being one of the manors belonging to Tiltey Abbey, was, on the dissolution, granted to Thomas Addington, who, in 1544, sold it, without a licence, to James Altham, esq. for which he was obliged to procure a pardon. It was again sold, without a licence, to Anthony Browne, esq. and the king's pardon was again to be obtained. Mr. Browne made it part of the endowment of his free-school at Brentwood. The Grange was formerly a hamlet, but is now only a farm on Grange Hill.

Manor of
Grange.

There was formerly a handsome seat, a mile distant from the church, by the river Rodon. The house has been pulled down. The manor to which it belonged was the property of sir Robert Wrothe, who died in 1605; and some of the heirs of sir Robert, his son, sold it to Robert Knight, esq. cashier of the South-sea-company; and he erected the capital mansion. On the estate being seized and sold by the South-sea-company, it was purchased by sir Joseph Eyles, who died in 1740; on

Lux-
borough.

he had George, of this place; Thomas, of Stapleford Tany, who married Mary, daughter of sir Thomas Urswick, by whom he had Walter, and John; George Scott, esq. died without issue in 1553, and was succeeded by his cousin and next heir, Walter, who, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Belknap, had Roger, Edward, John, Richard, Walter: Eleanor, wife of — Mitchel; and Mary. Walter, the father, died in 1550, and was succeeded by his son, Roger Scott, who married Elizabeth, daughter of John Leeds, of Sleyning, in Sussex, by whom he had George, Richard, William, and Richard the younger: he died in 1586, and his successor, George Scott, died in 1588, leaving, by his wife Dorothy, daughter of John Franck, of Hatfield Broadoak, and of Dutton-hill, in Great Easton, Elizabeth, and Mary, his co-heiresses; he had the manor of Stapleford Tany, Howesham Hall, and Little Leighs, which his eldest daughter, Elizabeth, conveyed to her husband, sir Edward Alleyn, of Hatfield priory. But Wolverston Hall had been given by the father to William, the third son, who married Prudence, daughter and co-heiress of Edmund Alabaster, esq. of Brett's Hall, in Tendring; his son, George Scott, esq. of Lincoln's Inn, in 1641, married Joan, daughter of William Towse, esq. sergeant-at-law, re-married to George Brett, and had by her George, who, marrying Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Meyne, esq. of Bramhanger, in Bedfordshire, had William, George, Lætitia, and Hester. He died in 1683, and his wife in 1705. William, the eldest son and heir, married Katharine, daughter of Thomas Luther, esq. of Stapleford Tany: she died in 1710, and he in 1725. They had George, Anne, married to the rev. Dr. William Derham, and Elizabeth. Thomas Scott, esq. the son and heir, married Mary, daughter of Mr. Hare, of Southwark, who died in 1720; himself dying in 1732, leaving his only son and heir, George Scott, esq. educated at St. John's College, Oxford, where he took the degree of LL.D.; he married Jane, daughter of the right rev. Dr. Edmund Gibson, bishop of London. Arms of Scott: Per pale indented, argent and sable, a saltier counterchanged. Crest: An arm erect and couped at the elbow, habited gules, cuff ermine, the hand proper.—*Morant*.

BOOK II. whose decease it again became the property of Robert Knight, esq. who dying in 1744, was succeeded by his son Robert, in 1746 created baron Luxborough of Shannon, and, in 1763, earl of Catherlough, in Ireland. In 1747, his lordship contracted with Thomas Braddyll, esq. for the sale of this estate: but governor Braddyll dying before Henry Knight, only son and heir of the lord Luxborough (in whom was the remainder in tail male), attained his age of twenty-one years in 1749, when it was purchased by James Crokatt, esq. who married a daughter of Peter Darnel Muilman, esq. It afterwards became the seat of sir Edward Walpole.

Potteles. There has been a royal house and lodge here, apparently as ancient as any thing in the forest. In 1512, Henry the eighth granted the keeping of his palace in the parish of Chigwell, within his forest of Waltham, called "Potteles," alias Langford's-place, with the lodge annexed, to sir John *Risley.* On sir John's death, the king gave it to William Compton, and his heirs; and, in 1596, queen Elizabeth granted the reversion and remainder of this estate to Thomas Spencer and others.

Pennington family A large brick house, in the village of Chigwell, was the family mansion of the Penningtons, previous to the year 1620. John Pennington died here in 1702, and Sarah, his wife, daughter of sir Robert Abdy, of Albins, died in 1690. John Bramston, esq. of Skreens, married Mary, one of the daughters, and became in her right possessed of this house and estate; on whose death, in 1718, he left three daughters, of whom Mary, the second, was married, in 1730, to the hon. Edward Byng, fifth and youngest son of lord viscount Torrington; and, after her decease, the farms belonging to this house were sold to Sackville Bale, esq. of Loughton; and the house, with about fifteen acres of land, were sold to Edward Timewell, esq. of the Victualling-office, on whose death they were purchased by John Raymond, esq.

The ancient mansion belonging to archbishop Harsnet was repaired and modernised by Mr. William Park Fisher, jeweller, in Tavistock-street, Covent-garden, London.

A tenement and lands in this parish, called Appletons, were held of John Mannock, esq.; in 1486, by John Cooke, of the family of that name, of Geddy Hall.

The abbey of Stratford had a tenement and appertenances called Buckhursts, or Monken Hall, the lands of which have been incorporated with other estates.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, consists of a nave, north aisle, and chancel: there are two galleries in the aisle, and one in the nave, which was built in 1722, by private contribution, for the use of the charity girls of this parish, as appears by an inscription, in which Thos. Scott, esq. Mr. Edward Fisher, Robert Clark, D.D. Mrs. Mary Harvey, and George Scott, esq. are recorded to have been the treasurers of the contribution. The east end of the aisle is called the little chancel, being the burial-place of the ancient family of Scott. A wooden belfry of chesnut contains five

* It had passed into the possession of king Edward the fourth on account of the minority of Edward, son and heir of George duke of Clarence, in Henry the seventh's time convicted of treason.

good bells; there is a handsome spire, and on the north side of the chancel a neat vestry.*

C H A P.
XI.

There is here both a rectory, which is a sinecure, and a vicarage, to which the rector presents. From the year 1329 to 1406, the rectory was in lay patrons, of the

* The two free-schools at Chigwell were founded in 1629, by the munificent prelate, Samuel Harsnet, archbishop of York, when, as the foundation deed witnesseth, his grace erected two fair and large school-houses in the parish of Chigwell, to the intent and purpose "that the children and youth of that and other adjoining parishes should be in one of the said schools taught to read, write, cypher, and cast accompts, and to learn their accidence, and, in the other school-house, to be instructed in the Latin and Greek tongues:" also, that handsome and convenient houses should be provided for the masters, with suitable gardens to each.

Free-
schools.

The inappropriate rectory and parsonage of Tottington, in Norfolk, with the advowson of its vicarage, were vested in twenty-one feoffees for the endowment of this institution, "and to be employed to no other use or purpose." The grammar schoolmaster to be paid twenty pounds, and the English master twenty-five pounds yearly. The residue of the endowment, "after the distribution of four shillings' worth of good wholesome wheaten bread," every Sunday (except two) at the conclusion of divine service, to the poor of the parish, and of twenty shillings to the clerk for ringing the church bell every morning at six o'clock, is to be safely laid up and kept as a stock, to be employed by the feoffees in "the needful reparations" of the school-houses and dwellings, and other necessary expenses.

Among the numerous ordinances for the good management of these schools, made by the pious founder, are the following: "The being, life, and continuation of all foundations on earth are the laws and statutes of that foundation; and the life of the statutes and ordinances is the due and strict observation of them, which cannot be done but by living men. I therefore charge the governors of my schools, as they shall answer to God, before his holy angels, for their own children, the loss of their time in their golden youth, the corruption of their manners, the cheating of their learning, and the ruin of that foundation which I have laid for their public good and the good of their posterity, that they look duly, carefully, and conscionably to the due keeping and observing of the statutes and ordinances following; which doing, the blessing and peace of God rest upon them and their issue.

"The first ordinance that I am to make, is to lay a bond and obligation upon myself, humbly upon my knees, during my life, to praise and magnify the goodness of God, who from a poor vicar of this parish, hath called me to so high a dignity in his church, and to enable me to offer this mite of my thankfulness to him for all the blessings that in mercy he hath bestowed upon me.

"Item,—I ordain, that both the schools respectively, be for ever ruled and governed by twelve governors, who shall, from time to time, elect and constitute the schoolmasters respectively, and remove and expel them as there shall be cause, see the ordinances of the schools duly kept and observed, receive the annual rents, pay the schoolmasters, and do all other matters and things that shall or may concern the welfare or prosperity of the said schools for ever; of which twelve, I nominate and appoint the vicar of Chigwell, and the parson of Loughton, for the time being, to be always two; and when it shall please God to call any of these twelve out of this mortal life, the surviving governors, within six days, shall meet at the grammar schoolmaster's house, and shall nominate and elect from the substantial parishioners of Chigwell, one or more governors, to make up the number of twelve, and not above.

"Item,—I ordain, that within ten days after every vacancy of either of the schoolmasters' places, that the governors of the more part of them do meet at the Latin schoolmaster's house, and there do choose a new schoolmaster; and if after ten days next ensuing the vacancy they do not agree, that then the election do devolve absolutely unto the lord bishop of London, for the time being.

"Item,—I constitute and appoint, that the Latin schoolmaster be a graduate of one of the Universities, not under seven-and-twenty years of age, a man skilful in the Greek and Latin tongues, a good poet, of

families of Goldingham, Bouchier, and Doreward. In 1439, John Doreward gave the advowson of this parish church and rectory to the priory of St. Botolph's, in Colchester; and they procured a licence to appropriate it to themselves and their successors; by virtue of which they presented twice to the vicarage. But in 1451

a sound religion, neither papist nor puritan, of a grave behaviour, of a sober and honest conversation, no tippler nor haunter of ale-houses, no puffer of tobacco; and, above all, that he be apt to teach and strict in his government; and all election or elections otherwise made I declare them to be void ipso facto; and that as soon as the schoolmaster do enter into holy orders, either deacon or priest, his place to become void ipso facto, as if he were dead.

"Item,—I ordain that the second schoolmaster, touching his years and conversation, be in all points endowed and qualified as the Latin schoolmaster is; that he write fair secretary and roman hands; that he be skilful in cyphering and casting of accounts, and teach his scholars the same faculty.

"Item,—I ordain, that the Latin schoolmaster, every Sunday afternoon, do call the scholars of both schools before him, and do catechise them in the principles of our christian religion, according to the order of the book of common prayer.

"Item,—I constitute and ordain, that the schoolmasters do not exceed in their corrections above the number of three stripes with the rod at any one time; that they strike not any scholar upon the head or the cheek with their fist, or the palms of their hands, or with any other thing, upon pain of loss of forty shillings for every such stripe or stroke, to be defaulted by the governors out of their yearly wages: that they do not curse or revile their scholars: that for speaking English in the Latin school, the scholar be corrected by the ferula, and for swearing by the rod: that monitors be appointed to note and present their rudeness, irreverent, or indecent demeanour in the streets, the church, or their public sports.

"Item,—I ordain, that the scholars of both the schools do every morning, upon their knees, before they begin their lectures, offer up their sacrifice of prayer and thanksgiving to God in such prayers and psalms as shall be appointed by me; that is to say, that their masters, both at one time in the morning, do repeat orderly the Lord's prayer, and after that the Te Deum Laudamus, &c.

"Item,—I publish to all men the true intentions of my heart, that I more affectionately desire that the poor scholars of my schools be nurtured and disciplined in good manners than instructed in good arts; and therefore I charge my schoolmasters respectively, as they will answer it to God and good men, that they bring up their scholars in the fear of God, and reverence toward all men: that they teach them obedience to their parents, observance to their betters, gentleness and ingenuity in all their carriages; and, above all, that they chastise them severely for three vices, lying, swearing, and filthy speaking, that men seeing the buds of virtue in their youth may be stirred up to bless them, and to praise God for their pious education.

"Item,—I constitute and ordain, that the Latin schoolmaster do teach gratis twelve scholars, born within the parish of Chigwell; two born in Loughton, two in Woodford, and two within the parish of Lamborne; and that the English schoolmaster do teach gratis, to read, write, cypher, and cast accounts, and to learn their accidence, all that shall be sent unto him, of the parish of Chigwell, two born within the parish of Loughton, two within the parish of Woodford, and two within the parish of Lamborne.

"Item,—I do nominate, and with my hearty prayers beseech the lord bishop of London for the time being, to be for ever the visitor of my schools; unto whom I will and appoint the governors abovesaid to repair in all cases of difficulty and difference amongst them: and I ordain that his, the said lord bishop's sentence, judgment, or doom, to be a final and conclusive determination of all differences whatsoever."

The present master of the grammar school has a salary of twenty pounds per annum; the number of scholars is thirty, three or four of them are upon the foundation. The schoolmaster of the English school has a salary of fifty pounds per annum. Twenty boys of the parish of Chigwell, two of Loughton, and two of Lambourne, are taught gratuitously. The celebrated William Penn was educated at this school.

and 1466, the rectors regained their right; soon after which, Thomas Kemp, bishop of London, founded a chantry in St. Paul's church, and endowed it with the advowson of Chigwell, and with lands here and at Great Clacton, uniting it to the office of confessor in that cathedral. Afterwards, in 1474, he appropriated to the priest of that chantry and confessor the prebend of St. Pancras; and from that time, whoever had that prebend, was also penitentiary; and as such hath ever since been rector of Chigwell, invested with its profits, without institution or induction, and patron of the vicarage.

In 1821, there were one thousand six hundred and ninety-six, and, in 1831, one thousand eight hundred and fifteen inhabitants in this parish.

Besides the archbishop's schools, there is another charitable foundation here for the education and clothing of ten girls, under the care of the treasurer; it is principally supported by an annual charity sermon.

Archbishop Harsnet gave an annuity of six pounds thirteen shillings and four pence for the relief and maintenance of poor people living in the almshouse; and fourteen pounds a year for maintaining a foot-path five miles from Abridge towards London. Twenty-four two-penny loaves are distributed to twenty-four such poor persons of this parish as shall be present at the celebrating of divine service, it being the gift of archbishop Harsnet. Six shillings and eight pence quarterly is left payable to three poor widows in the almshouse.

Charities.

An inscription, in old English characters, on a brass plate, records that "Robert Ramston, gent. of Chingford, deceased, as he was careful in his life-time to relieve the poor, so at his end he gave twenty-four pounds yearly to the poor of two parishes, whereof to the poor of the parish of Chigwell he hath given forty shillings, to be paid in the month of November." He died in 1585.

On a mural marble monument in the chancel, under the effigies of a man and woman and two children, is a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation: "Thomas Colshill, esquire, and Mary his wife, daughter of Guidon Crayford, esquire, were married fifty years. During the same time he served king Edward, and the queens Mary and Elizabeth, as surveyor of the great customs of the city of London, and in that county was one of the justices of the peace twenty-four years. The integrity of their lives and their christian deaths promise their souls to rest in heaven, as their bones do in this tomb." He died March 30, the seventy-seventh year of his age, the thirty-seventh year of queen Elizabeth. She died June 3, the seventy-fourth year of her age, the forty-first year of queen Elizabeth.

Inscriptions.

A large brass plate, with a finely executed whole-length figure of archbishop Harsnet, and around the effigy a Latin inscription, written by himself, of which the following is a translation: "Here lieth Samuel Harsnet, formerly vicar of this church, and afterwards, first, the unworthy bishop of Chichester, then the more unworthy bishop of Norwich, and, lastly, the very unworthy archbishop of York, who died on the 25th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1631." Originally this monument was on the floor of the aisle, but removed to insure its preservation.

In the chancel, of the Scott family: "To the memory of Mrs. Katharine Scott, daughter of Thomas Luther, of Suttons, in the parish of Stapleford Tany, esq. and wife of William Scott, of Wolfston Hall, in this parish, esq. who died October 16, 1710, aged fifty-eight." Also, of William Scott, esq. who died June 27, 1725, aged seventy-two. Likewise, of George Scott, esq. eldest son to the above William and Katharine, who died February 19, 1726, aged fifty-three. And of Thomas Scott, esq. of Woolstone Hall, who died January 19th, 1732, aged fifty-two. There are other inscriptions to the memory of individuals of the Scott and other families.

BOOK II.

LAMBOURNE.

Lam-
bourne.

This parish is bounded on the north by Theydon Bois and Theydon Gernon, from which it is separated by the river Rodon; on the south, by the liberty of Havering; on the east, by Stapleford Abbots; and on the west by Chigwell. It is wholly in the forest, and agreeably diversified with hill and dale, from various situations presenting distant interesting prospects. The name in Saxon Lamburn, written Lamborn and Lamburn, is supposed in part to be derived from the river which in its course from Ongar passing here was anciently named Angriciburne, or the Ongar stream.

The village of Lambourne is small, and the houses distant from each other, but the handsome and improving village of Abbridge has been considered as forming a continuation of it, and is the most populous part of the parish, having very considerably increased during the last ten years; it is named from the bridge which at its precincts crosses the river. There are here many respectable dwelling houses, the residences of tradespeople and others; it has also several good inns. A new episcopal chapel has lately been commenced building here, and a meeting-house belonging to the Arminian or Wesleyan methodists bears on the inscription the date of 1833.

Near the road from London to Cliping Ongar, which passes through this place, a handsome messuage was erected by James Mitchell, esq. and was afterwards the property and residence of Robert Sutton, esq. of whom it was purchased, with the adjoining estate, by William Joseph Lockwood, esq. in 1810: the mansion has been since pulled down. The distance from Ongar is seven, and from London fourteen miles.

In 1050, during the reign of Edward the confessor, the lands of this parish belonged to Leffi, a Saxon; and, at the time of the Domesday survey, had become the property of Eustace, earl of Boulogne, whose under-tenant was named David. The next succeeding possessor on record was Pharin, or Pharam de Boulogne, great grandson of Eustace, succeeded by his daughter and heiress, who was married to Ingebram de Fiennes, slain at the siege of Acre, in the time of Richard the first: from this ancestry are descended the viscounts Saye and Sele. There were formerly seven manors in this parish, and Waltham abbey had also some land here, but it is very doubtful if it was a manor; for in the charter of the manor of Lambeth, near London, which belonged to king Harold, the founder of the abbey, it is spelt Lambehythe; and that is the reason, some have supposed, there has been a manor in this parish belonging to Waltham abbey.

Manor
of Lam-
bourne.

Galfred, son of Eustace, earl of Boulogne, succeeding to this estate, left it to his son William, from whom it passed to his younger son, Pharamus de Boulogne.

Eustace, the elder, having a daughter named Matilda, king Henry the first married her with an immense fortune to Stephen, earl of Blois, afterwards his successor to the throne of England: Sibylla de Tyngrie, daughter and sole heiress to Pharamus, was married to Ingebram de Fiennes, of a family who, from the Conquest to the time of king John, were the hereditary constables of Dover Castle, and their son, William de Fiennes, exchanged this manor and that office in the year 1218, with king John, for the manor of Wendover, in the county of Buckingham. His successor here was Robert de Lamburn, who gave the rectory to Waltham abbey. This Robert paid scutage for his estates in Essex, two marks, from the first to the thirteenth of king John, towards the scutage for Normandy. William de Lamburn, probably Robert's grandson, was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1284 and 1285, in the reign of Edward the first; he lived at a manor of the same name, in the parish of Canewden, in the hundred of Rochford. At the time of his decease in 1300, he held this manor of the inheritance of Philip de Burnel, then under age, and the king's ward, by the service of two knights' fees: James, his son and heir, was living in 1334, and, under him, Robert Williams, of Havering (who was outlawed for felony) held three roods of meadow in the parish of Lambourne. The other lands which this Robert Williams held in this parish shew the owners of the several other lordships here, though it is not possible now to ascertain to what manors they severally belonged. Thomas de Lamburn, probably the son of James, died in 1360, and William, his son, in 1362. This last dying under age, he was succeeded by his sister Joan, wife of sir William Chene, of the Isle of Sheppey, in the county of Kent. Under him Richard Fifhide, and Alice his wife, held, in 1374, some lands in this parish called Laghames, no doubt part of this manor's demesne; and, in the reign of king Henry the fourth, it was in the possession of Thomas Lampet; but from that time to 1485, there is no information whatever to be gathered respecting this estate. John Curson, who died in that year, held it of Jasper Tudor de Hatfield, duke of Bedford, in right of Anne his duchess. This duke was the second son of Owen Tudor, by Katharine, queen dowager of Henry the fifth, and was created earl of Pembroke by his half brother, king Henry the sixth, in the eighteenth year of his reign; he lost both title and estates in 1453, when Edward the fourth had possession of the crown; but was restored to them when Henry the sixth remounted his throne. However, on the king's deposition he raised an army in Wales against Edward the fourth; but, losing the day at the battle of Tewkesbury, the earl dismissed his troops and retired to Pembroke castle, whither Edward sent a messenger, one Vaughan, to kill him: as it happened, the earl had notice of his intention, and, consequently, avoided the message by giving it to the messenger. From the castle he fled to France, and was ordered, by the duke of Bretagne, to confine himself to the town of Vannes. In 1485, he was created duke of Bedford, by Henry the seventh, (having received the order of the garter, in 1453,

BOOK II. from Henry the sixth,) and, in 1486, he was appointed lord lieutenant of Ireland. He died in 1495, leaving no issue but a natural daughter, Ellen, wife of William Gardner, citizen of London.

The manor came next into the Barfoot family, and continued in their possession until the commencement of the eighteenth century. Robert Barfoot, who died in 1546, held the manor of Lambourne, with its appertenances, as of the hundred of Ongar, by suit at that hundred and the service of the wardstaff, namely:—"To carry a load of straw, with a cart and six horses, to Abridge, and two men armed with rapiers* to watch the said wardstaff." The straw might be for the wardsmen to lie on: he was also to repair so much of the paling of the park at Havering as bordered on the parish, when need shall be, according to old custom, in lieu of all services. There was then a palace of the sovereigns of England at Havering. He died in 1546, and was buried in this church, as likewise was Katharine his wife. Thomas, his son and heir, succeeded him; who is supposed to have built part of the present house, as there appears in one of the rooms the letters T. B. and the date 1571. John Barfoot, esq. (perhaps the son of Thomas) by Mary his wife, daughter and co-heiress of Thomas Goodman, of Leatherhead, in Surrey, esq. had one daughter, Anne, and several sons; the youngest of whom, John, a woollen-draper in London, married Mary, daughter of John Eldred, esq. of Little Birch, and by her had John, his only son, of Lincoln's Inn, who, by Mary his wife, daughter of John Eldred, esq. of Stanway, had John, Mary, and Anne, wife of the rev. Thomas Bernard, vicar of Earls Colne. John Barefoot, esq. died in 1725.

This manor of Lambourne was next in the possession of John Fortescue Aland, esq. son of Edmund Fortescue and Sarah his wife, daughter of Henry Aland, esq. of Waterford. He was educated at Oxford, and being intended for the law, was entered at the Inner Temple, of which he was chosen reader in 1716; was appointed solicitor-general to the prince of Wales in 1714; in 1716, solicitor-general to the king; in 1717, constituted one of the barons of the Exchequer; and, in 1718, one of the justices of the King's Bench; but at the accession of king George the second, his commission was superseded. However, in 1728, he was appointed one of the justices of the Common Pleas, being then a knight; but resigned this place in 1746, on account of his age and infirmities, having sat in the superior courts at Westminster the long period of thirty years. On this occasion, in testimony of his services, he was created baron Fortescue, of Credan, in the county of Waterford, in Ireland; a dignity his lordship enjoyed but a few months, departing this life the same year, aged seventy-six. He deservedly had the name of one perfectly read in Norman and Saxon literature; and had been created doctor of laws by diploma from the university of Oxford, a copy of which he published in his "Reports," a work held in very good esteem. He also

* Rapier, a short sword.

published "Sir John Fortescue's difference between an absolute and limited Monarchy," written in the time of king Henry the sixth, with remarks by the editor. The same preface was printed with each of the above works, and is an excellent treatise in commendation of the laws and constitution of England. By his first wife, Grace, daughter of lord chief justice Pratt (grandfather of the present marquis Camden), his lordship had two sons, one a counsellor and the other a sea officer; and a daughter, all of whom died unmarried. By his second wife, Elizabeth Dormer, daughter of Robert Dormer, esq. one of the justices of the Common Pleas, he had his son and heir, Dormer Fortescue Aland, second lord Fortescue, on whose death, in 1780, aged fifty-nine, the title became extinct.

The first lord Fortescue erected a mansion on this estate, a short distance from Lambourne Hall, towards Stapleford Abbots, called Knolls Hill, but which has since been almost wholly pulled down, and is now only a farm-house. It was situated on a rising ground, commanding a beautiful and extensive prospect. Of the devisee of lord Fortescue this manor was purchased, in 1782, by the rev. Edward Lockwood, rector of St. Peter's, in Northampton, and formerly a fellow of All Souls College, Oxford; master of arts in 1744; in 1770, he married Elizabeth, the daughter and heiress of Joseph Percival, esq. of Stapleton, in Gloucestershire; and dying in 1802, left this estate to his second son, Edward Lockwood Percival, esq. who, in 1790, married Louisa Bridget Sutton, the second surviving daughter of lord George Manners Sutton, third and youngest son of John Manners, third duke of Rutland, knight of the garter. Their son, Edward Lockwood Percival, esq. is the present possessor and lord of this manor.* On the mansion-house becoming the property of lord Fortescue, it first became inhabited by tenants, from which time to the present it has been let on lease. The house has been much reduced from its ancient extent, as may be known from thick foundations having been discovered in the garden and elsewhere, and it is said that skulls have been found in the present building; but how far that is true, or what cause can be assigned for so extraordinary a fact, is entirely conjecture. One of the rooms in the house has the appearance of being built in the sixteenth century, from the ornaments of wood, and the date of 1571; there are also several proverbs and moral sentences on panels near the ceiling, and well-executed portraits of the family of Fortescue have been preserved: this estate is partly in this parish, and partly in Stapleford Abbots.

Shepes Hall, of Norwich, is the next manor in this parish, of which the oldest mention occurs in records: its appellation of Norwich, is from having belonged to that bishopric; and the earliest recorded proprietor was the famous Henry Spencer, who, in 1383, held it of the prior of St. John of Jerusalem, and of sir John Sutton,

* Arms of Percival: Sable, a horse passant, argent, spancelled in both legs on the near side, gules. Crest: a nag's head couped, argent.

BOOK II.

by the service of six shillings per annum, and of king Richard the second, in capite, as of the manor of Havering (then a royal palace), by the service of making sixty perches of the park-pale with his own timber; and of the earl of Oxford, by one suit of court, from three weeks to three weeks; and to Thomas Baill, sixpence per annum. This martial ecclesiastic, bred to arms in Italy, in the service of pope Adrian (Nicholas Breakspear, by birth an Englishman), in his wars against the duke of Milan, as a reward obtained from his holiness, in 1370, this bishopric, being consecrated by the pope in person. He had already been prebendary of Salisbury. In 1381, during Wat Tyler's rebellion, he put himself at the head of a small body of loyal subjects, and attacking the rebels, by dint of valour, aided by stratagem, made a terrible slaughter, beheading some, killing others, and capturing their leader Littster, a dyer of Norwich, whom he sent to London, and who was condemned and executed.

About 1385, there was a schism in the church, two popes disputing the right of opening the gates of heaven, *viz.* Urban and Clement. The former commanding the strongest party, perceived the inefficiency of spiritual weapons, and adopted in preference the employment of temporal arms. In furtherance of this design, he published a crusade against Clement and his adherents, of which he declared Henry Spencer to be general. On this occasion, the bishop, without the authority, or against the will of the king of England, got together a fleet, and transported his army into the Netherlands. The king and parliament resenting this conduct, seized his temporalities, and kept them two years; but they were restored by the parliament in 1385. This boisterous hero of ecclesiastical authority quarrelled with the monks of Norwich, whom he oppressed and trampled upon for fifteen years; and ultimately compelled them to purchase their peace at the price of four hundred marks. Such was his hatred against Lollardism, and whatever he deemed innovation, that he enjoined sir Thomas Erpingham, as a penance for his favouring Wickliff, to build the gate at the entrance of the college precinct at Norwich, which is yet distinguished by that knight's name. The bishop died in 1406, and was interred before the high altar, on the north side of the tomb of the founder, in Norwich cathedral. This prelate was the first who impaled his private arms with those of his see; a custom since brought into general use. The bishops of Norwich continued possessed of this manor and lands till 1536, when they were transferred into the hands of lord Audeley, lord high chancellor to king Henry the eighth, who obtained a licence, in 1538, to alienate them to William Hale; and the latter had licence, in 1555, in the reign of queen Mary, to dispose of the same to William Porter and others; from which period, till the commencement of the eighteenth century, its history and its successive proprietors are involved in obscurity. We next hear of it as the residence and property of William Walker, and of Robert Walker, who died in 1724; then of Thomas Walker, esq. surveyor-general to king George the second, and elected member of parliament for Westlooe in 1733, and for

Plympton, in the parliament summoned to meet at Westminster, in 1734; also afterwards for Helston, in the one holden in 1741; upon whose decease, on the 22d of October, 1748, it was bequeathed to his nephew, Stephen Skynner, esq.; upon the division of whose estate, in 1772, it was allotted to the late sir John and lady Aubrey, who was his grand-daughter; from whom it was purchased by William Waylet, esq., and from him passed, in 1785, by sale, to the late admiral sir Edward Hughes, knight of the bath, and was inhabited by David Ball, esq. who was the worthy admiral's son-in-law. He died in 1798, when it devolved to his only son and heir, Edward Hughes Ball, esq. its late proprietor, who sold it, in 1826, to the rev. Edward Dowdeswell, D.D. rector of Stanford Rivers, and by him was conveyed, by deed of gift, to Miss Lockwood Percival.

The house belonging to this manor is called Bishops Hall, no doubt from its having continued so long attached to the see of Norwich. It is situated three quarters of a mile south-west from the church, adjoining the road from Abridge to Hainault Forest, or Chigwell Row, and at which you survey an extensive district of country, its situation being on the summit of a hill, commantling a prospect towards Epping Forest on the north; and extending to the Thames, and counties of Kent, Surrey, and Middlesex, on the south-west.

Patch Park, formerly called Hunts, took its derivation from John Hunt and his partners, who held half a fee in Lambourne, under John and Thomas de Vere, earls of Oxford, in the years 1358 and 1370; it was sometime the property of John and Thomas Luther, of Suttons, in Stapleford Tany; then of Rebecca, his daughter, wife of Florian Goebel, esq.; afterwards of Gerrard Goebel; and, after his death, in 1786, purchased by the late Charles Smith, esq.; and now in the possession of his grandson, sir Charles Smith, bart. a minor.

Hunts.

The manor and estate of Abridge, Affebrugge, or Affebridge, were given to the knights hospitallers, by Peter de Voisnes and William de Bois. In 1358, John de Affebregge held one messuage and sixty acres of arable in Affebregge of the earl of Hertford.

Abridge.

The manor of Arneways was named from Adam Arneway, who, jointly with the bishop of Norwich, and Joan Pellican, held half a fee here under the earls of Oxford, about the reign of king Henry the sixth. But the earls had a parcel of it in demesne, within their manor of Stapleford Abbots. Sir William Fitzwilliam, in the twenty-sixth of Henry the eighth, held a messuage and lands in Arneways, and his son and heir, William Fitzwilliam, esq. succeeded him on his decease in 1536. Richard Morgan and Thomas Carpenter held this manor in 1552; and it belonged to Robert Taverner, esq. who, on his decease in 1556, was succeeded by his son Thomas, who died in 1610, leaving a son, also named Thomas. Arneways belonged, in the reign of king Charles the second, to Robert Draper, esq. who, dying in 1635, was succeeded by his son Robert. This estate of Arneways, now called Arnolds, was,

Arneways
or Arnolds.

BOOK II. toward the commencement of the reign of George the third, the property of Mr. John Todd, of Walthamstow; one moiety of it he gave to Mr. William Church, who married his daughter: and their daughter and heir being married to Mr. Peter Searle, brought it to him. Mr. Searle sold it to Thomas Scott, of Woolston Hall, esq. and it afterwards belonged to his son, George Scott, esq.; it is now the property of Miss Sewell. The mansion-house of Arnolds is a large old timber building, one mile and a half north-east from the church, adjacent to the road leading to Passingford Bridge and Stapleford Abbots.

St. John's Lambourne Abridge (alias St. John's) is mentioned as another manor in this parish. In 1637, it was the property of Francis Peacocke, esq. (of the family already alluded to as holding the manors of Lambourne and Affebridge,) from whom it was transferred to that of Scott, of Chigwell; William Scott, esq. gave it in marriage with his daughter Anne, to the rev. Dr. Derham, of Upminster. It is at present only a small farm.

Dews Hall. The name of this manor is otherwise written, in records, Dagew Hall, Dawes Hall, Dewx Hall, or Deux Hall. The first mention we find of it was in 1505, the twenty-first of Henry the seventh; and in the fourteenth century it had belonged either to Thomas Russell, John de Lancaster, or Richard de Wylleby. However, Reginald Bysmere, who died in 1505, held this manor of Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham,* as of his hundred of Ongar, by fealty and rent of two shillings per annum, called ward silver, and doing the said duke white service at the ward-staff in Ongar hundred. William, the son and heir of Reginald, succeeded his father.

On the duke of Buckingham's condemnation, this manor reverting to the crown, is believed to have been granted, by king Henry, to sir William Sulyard, who appears to have held it at the time of his death in 1539; from which period, till the year 1621, no authentic account of the possessors of it are to be found; but, from an epitaph in the parish church of Epping, for Thomas Palmer, esq. son of Henry Palmer, of Dews Hall, in Lambourne, who died in 1621, it appears to have belonged to that family; one of the Palmers sold it to Catlyn Thorowgood, esq. chief factor to the South-sea-company at Vera Cruz and Porto Bello. He served the office of sheriff of the county of Essex in 1729; and, on his decease in 1732, it devolved to his son, Pate Thorowgood, esq. who sold it to Richard Lockwood,† esq. an eminent Turkey merchant,

* This duke of Buckingham, descended from a daughter of the duke of Gloucester, youngest son of king Edward the third, was reported to have made use of expressions, from which might be inferred the existence of a dormant claim to the throne of England, on the failure of issue in Henry the eighth; and was in consequence tried, condemned, and, in 1521, beheaded. With this nobleman, the hereditary office of high constable of England, an appointment of the highest dignity and honour, expired, and has not been revived, unless on an emergency, which called for its accidental resumption.

† Richard Lockwood was rector of Dingley in 1530, and of Tiffeld, in Northamptonshire, where he died in 1535, leaving Richard, his son, who died in 1598, who was resident at Dingley, in the same county. Richard and John were his only surviving children. John Lockwood was instituted to the vicarage of

chosen member of parliament for Hindon in 1713; for the city of London in 1722; and for the city of Worcester in 1734. He married Matilda, daughter of George Vernon, esq. of Sudbury, in Derbyshire, and dying in 1756, left five sons, the eldest of whom, Richard, succeeded him. He was senior verderer of Waltham Forest, in this county, and senior governor of Christ's Hospital, in London; on his death in 1794, leaving no issue by his wife Anna Catherina, the daughter of Henry Vernon, esq. of Sudbury, and only sister of George Venables, the first lord Vernon* (his first cousin) whom he married, March the 18th, 1749. This property descended to his third brother, the rev. Edward Lockwood, of Lambourne Hall, and, on his demise in 1802, devolved to his grandson, William Joseph Lockwood, esq. to whom it at present belongs.

The mansion-house was a brick building of some antiquity, to which Richard Lockwood, esq. in 1735, made considerable additions, and with great taste. The new

Towcester, November 8th, 1634, and being attached to the royal cause, was ejected by the parliament; he was present on the king's side at the battle of Naseby, and wounded in that engagement. Richard, his elder brother, resided at Newington, in Surrey, and was buried in St. Mary Magdalen church, in Bermondsey, November 17th, 1632: he married Mary, daughter of James Reading, esq. of Newington, and had issue Richard, Frances, Amy, and Mary. Richard was of Gayton, in Northamptonshire, of which county he was sheriff in 1695, and in that capacity presented the addresses to king William at Althorp, then the seat of his minister, the earl of Sunderland: he was buried at Gayton, February 3, 1697. He married Susannah, sole heiress of Edward Cutts, of this parish, esq. and had issue Cutts and Richard; Anne, Susannah, Mary, Priscilla, and Elizabeth. Cutts died unmarried, January 3d, 1709: Richard was member of parliament for Hindon in 1713; London, 1722; Worcester, 1734: he married, February 28th, 1712, Matilda, daughter of George Vernon, esq. of Sudbury, in Derbyshire, and died August 31st, 1756, leaving five sons, Richard, John, Edward, Thomas, and William, and two daughters, Matilda and Catherine. Richard married, March 16th, 1749, Anna Catherina, only sister of George Venables, the first lord Vernon, but died without issue, March 25th, 1797. Edward, A.M. his third brother, but successor in this estate, was rector of Hanwell, in Oxfordshire, and St. Peter's, in the town of Northampton: he was thrice married; first, August 29th, 1752, to Lucy, daughter of the rev. William Dowdeswell; secondly, February 23d, 1770, to Elizabeth, sole heiress of Joseph Percival, esq. of Stapleton, in Gloucestershire; thirdly, November 3, 1772, to Judith, widow of sir John Rous, bart. of Henham Hall, member of parliament for Suffolk: by his first wife he had six children, William Joseph, Edward, of Lambourne Hall, and John Cutts; Anne, Matilda Catherine, and Frances Dorothy: he died January 22, 1802. William Joseph, his eldest son, died in his life-time, having married Elizabeth, daughter of Edward Jekyll, esq. and leaving an only child, William Joseph Lockwood, the present proprietor, who is married to Rachael, daughter of sir Mark Wood, bart. late member of parliament for Gatton, and has issue William Mark, born in Pall Mall, London, March 11th, 1817; George, born at the same place, June 16th, 1818; Rachael Frances, born at Dews Hall, December 26th, 1819, and who died there on the 18th of January, 1820. Mr. Lockwood was elected a verderer of the forest of Waltham, December, 1811. Arms of Lockwood: Argent, a fesse between three martlets sable; quartering: Cutts of Arkesden, Essex, viz. argent, on a bend engrailed sable, three plates. Crest: On the stump of a tree erased proper, a martlet sable.

* The first lord Vernon was the father of the late and present lords of that title, as also of the most rev. Edward Venables Vernon, D.C.L. the present archbishop of York; the countess of Harcourt, hon. Mrs. Anson, &c. &c.

BOOK II. part forms the grand front, and is judiciously joined to the old house, commanding an extensive prospect towards Epping Place on the north; Hill Hall, and Stapleford Tany, on the east; High Beech, and the parishes of Chigwell and Loughton, on the west. It is a little way south from the church.

Priors. Priors manor is a mile and half east from Abridge, and by the name appears to have belonged to a religious house, but this no document of undisputed authority has determined. The earliest account of it we find is, that it constituted a portion of the estate of Henry, earl of Sussex, by whom it was disposed of, in 1553, to Richard Taverner, who died in 1556, in possession of this estate, which he held by knight's service. Thomas was his son, whose son Robert sold it, in 1625, to Robert Draper, esq.: he died its proprietor in 1635, when it descended to William Draper, by whom it was sold, in 1641, to Robert Bromfield, whose grandson John gave it, by will, to his sister Elizabeth, wife of Nicholas Staphurst, M.D. of Billericay, in this county. Their son, Nicholas Staphurst, the heir of his mother Elizabeth, sold this estate, in 1713, to Dr. Thomas Tooke, then rector of this parish; who, leaving no issue, by his will devised the estate, together with Manuden Hall, in Clavering hundred, to his brother, the rev. John Tooke, after the decease of his wife Anne, who enjoyed his property here and at Manuden in jointure. John Tooke, who was of Christ's College, Cambridge, B.A. 1700, M.A. 1704, and rector of Chicknall, in Essex, succeeded likewise to two-fourths of his brother's property at Gledshew, in Hertfordshire. He married Susannah, daughter of the rev. Robert Taylor, of Little Hallingbury, by whom he had several children, and died in 1764; Thomas, his eldest son, died at the early age of seven years, in 1713, at Stortford school, in the church of which a monument is erected to his memory. Two other sons, John and Robert, were destined for the church. John Tooke was of Emanuel College, Cambridge, B.A. 1727, M.A. 1731, B.D. 1738. Robert Tooke was of the same college, B.A. 1734, M.A. 1738; he succeeded to this property on his father's death, and dying in 1776, left it to his sister, Mrs. Calvert, whose daughters sold it to the late Charles Smijth, esq.

Church. This church was given, by Robert de Lamburn, to the canons of Waltham Holy Cross, and confirmed to them by William de St. Maria, bishop of London, in 1218, and seems to have been appropriated to them, and a vicarage ordained; but so ordered, that the perpetual vicar who should supply the cure should pay forty shillings yearly pension to the said canons, for the use of the poor of this hospital, built within the courts of their monastery, and then the vicars to have all the remaining profits, and to sustain all the burthens of this church. How far this ordination and endowment took effect, we are at a loss to know. However, this church again became a rectory, and continued so in their gift till the dissolution of monasteries. Then it came successively into the hands of sir Anthony Cook, Nicholas Bacon, and Katherine Barefoot, who had the gift of one turn from the convent and abbey; Thomas Taverner, Robert

Draper, Robert Bromfield, Nicholas Staphurst, of Billericay, of whom Dr. Thomas Tooke purchased the advowson in 1712, and, by his will, bequeathed it to Bennet or Corpus Christi College, at Cambridge, of which he had been a fellow.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary and All Saints, is of one pace with the chancel, neat and tiled; in length, its extent is above seventy feet; the roof in the interior twenty-six feet in height; and at the west end is a leaded spire, in which are three bells. The breadth of the church at the east end is eighteen feet, and at the west twenty-one, at which is the principal entrance; over the door of which is this inscription:—

“AD MAJOREM DEI GLORIAM. A.D. MDCCXXVI.”

At this extremity, two galleries in the interior of the edifice have been erected, the upper of which, on the panels, bears the letters W. I. L. and E. L. P., A.D. 1820; and on the architrave of the under gallery, over the nave, “This gallery was built at the charge of Mr. William Walker, citizen and ironmonger, of London, A.D. 1704.”

The north door is indented, with pillars similar to those of the church of Margaret Roding; and in the chancel are three windows of stained glass, the fourth containing five pieces of curious and valuable old painting, *viz.* in the upper compartment, one representing the smooth ways of sin, and the rugged and thorny paths of virtue, as also the adoration of the Magi; in the middle is the Crucifixion; and, in the two lower, the Nativity of our Lord; and Jesus walking on the Sea, with St. Peter sinking in his approach towards him; an inscription in German under each: they probably belonged to the chapel of some foreign convent, and were brought from Basle, in Switzerland, in 1817. The pavement of the chancel is about nine inches more elevated than that of the body of the church.

At the east end, near the altar, is a tablet to the memory of Dr. Thomas Wynnyffe, bishop of Lincoln, dean of St. Paul's, and rector of this parish. His enjoyment of his episcopal dignity, to which he was elected in 1641, was short, living to see the demolition of his palace at Lincoln, and his country residence at Buckden, with all the revenues of his see taken from him, and its temporalities put in sequestration by the prevailing powers; after which he retired to this parish, where he had purchased an estate and the advowson of the rectory, and at his death was buried within the rails of the communion table, with the following inscription on his monument of black marble, on which are his arms impaled with those of his see.

“Effare, marmor silens, quid et quem luges funus, non privatum sed publicum, Anglicanæ ecclesiæ (nisi Deus antevertat) pene cadaver Thomam Wynniffum, sacræ theologiæ doctorem, præconem mitissimum, in docendo nervosum, in redarguendo cordatum, in corripiendo ΑΙΠΡΟΣΩΠΟΛΗΙΤΟΝ; in exhortando flexanimum, principi suo acceptum, clarum, et domesticum; proceribus adamatum, cleri delicias, civibus et plebeiis venerandum; quo nec palatium regium, nec episcopalis sedes, nec magna civitas, nec rus privatum, nec hæc ætas, quicquam vidit sanctius. Huuc in tantâ penuriâ et paucitate bonorum, pessimo

Inscrip-
tions.

BOOK II. ævo subductum, lugeo. In vultu comitas, ingenuitas in verbis, in familiari consuetudine humanitas et quædam quasi venus habitabat. Vixit cœlebs, et tamen patri, fratri, sororibus, nepotibus, neptibusque, indulgentissimus pater. Natales vindicat Sherbonia in agro Dorcestrensi, educationem Exoniense in Oxoniensi academiâ collegium provectionis : ætatis curriculum hujus ecclesiæ necnon et Willingamiæ de Doc in hoc ipso comitatu rectorem, tunc Glocestrensis ecclesiæ, dein Paulinæ apud Londinensi decanatus. Senectutem in magno temporum deliquio Lincolnensis episcopatus. Sepulchrum hæc Lamburnia, ubi ad patrem collectus quietè obdormescit. Expectans beatissimam resurrectionem, obiit Sept. 19, An. Dom. 1654, ætat. LXXVIII. Anima hæc in cœlos recepta non laudationem quæsit, sed imitationem."

"Tell, silent marble; of what and whom thou formest the funereal memorial? The church itself—well nigh (if God prevent not) interred with the ashes of Thomas Wynniff, doctor of divinity: a most persuasive preacher; sound in doctrine; without any sternness of countenance uttering his rebukes; most convincing in exhortation: in favour with his prince, honoured by him, and familiar with him: courted by the great, the boast of the clergy, revered both by the citizens and the lower orders: than whom, neither the palace of royalty, nor the episcopal bench nor the great city, nor rural privacy, nor this age of ours, hath ever looked on one more reverend. That such a man should be reduced by this supremely evil age to such extreme penury and poverty, I grievously lament. From his attractive countenance, the polish of his style, the allurements of his social intercourse, he might have been taken for a charmer of the other sex, in the family circle. He lived, however, a bachelor; though to his own father, brother, sisters, nephews and nieces, the most indulgent of parents. Sherbourne, in the county of Dorchester, claims his birth; Exeter College, in the University of Oxford, his education: the chariot of riper age brought him to the rectory of this church, and that of Willingale Doc, in the same county; next, to the deanery of Gloucester; and afterwards, that of St. Paul's, at London. The great uproar of those times found him, on the verge of his old age, bishop of Lincoln. His tomb is here at Lambourne, where, gathered to his fathers, he sleeps in peace, waiting for the most blessed of resurrections. He died on the nineteenth day of the month of September, in the year of our Lord sixteen hundred and fifty-four, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. The soul from hence received into heaven, seeks not adulation, but imitation."

The father of the bishop was also buried in the same vault, with this inscription: "Here lyeth the bodie of John Wynniffe, of Sherborne, in the countie of Dorsett, gent. father to Thomas Wynniffe, dean of St. Paul's, in London, and rector of this church. He dyed on the 27th of September, A. D. 1630, of his age, ninety-two."

Within the communion rails: H. S. E. "Thomas Took, S. T. P. hujus ecclesiæ per xiv annos rectorem, Storfordiæ, quæ est episcoporum xxx amplius gymnasiarcha; uxorem duxit lectissimam fœminam Annam Ric^æ Lydal, M. D. Gardianii, non ita pridem Mertonensis, e filiabus unam, quacum bienneo fere plus vicenis postquam amantissimè vixerat desideratissimus: tandem obiit xxiv die Maii, An. Dom. MDCCXI. ætat. LIV."

On Dr. Thomas Tooke, written by Dr. Moss, dean of Ely: "Qui pedem huc infers æternitatis contemplator, imprudens ne calces eruditos cineres: astas ad tumulum Thomæ Tooke, S. T. P. vir is linguarum, artium, rerum, peritissimus; sed præter cætera egregiè natus atque aptus fuit ad puerilem ætatem plectendam et formandam frænis calcaribusve indoli cujusque accommodatis; ingeniorum sagacissimus inspector et judex, idemque lenissimus dux et moderator; in docendo tam patiens adeo non iracundus, ut personam irati pro re natâ induerit: ne disciplinæ habenas nimis laxas haberet, morum tamen cum vigilantissimus custos, tum rigidus ubi opus esset castigator et corrector; hoc quippe magistro præcipuè cavendum duxit ne discipuli sui e scholâ ac tyrocinio egressi bonas literas vitilis turpiter inquinatas, quasi pestem ecclesiæ et rei-publicæ importarent. Quod ad privatas laudes priscâ fuit pietate et fide, pectoris omninò aperti, candidi, honesto incocti humanitate conditi, referti benevolentia, eaque in amicos effusissimâ, officiosissimâ. Vidua mærens, faciend. curavit."

In English: "O thou contemplator of eternity, that approachest this place, do not inconsiderately

tread on learned ashes; thou standest at the tomb of Thomas Tooke, D.D. A man of the greatest skill in languages, arts, and things; but, above all, he was singularly fitted by nature to manage and form the minds of youth, with reins or spurs suited to every disposition. He was a most sagacious inspector and judge of genius, and also a most mild guide and master. He was so patient in teaching, so free from passion, that he appeared angry as occasion required, without really being so. Lest the reins of discipline should be too loose, he was, however, as well a most vigilant guardian of morals, as a rigid corrector when needful;—for he thought it the chief duty of a master to be careful lest his scholar, when released from his tuition, should bring into the church and state good learning shamefully contaminated with vices, and be thereby a plague to them. In his private character he was strictly pious and just, with a heart perfectly open, candid, virtuous, humane, benevolent, and obliging.”

Near the communion rails is buried the body of the rev. Michael Tyson, F.R.S., B.A. 1764, M.A. 1767, B.D. 1775, only child of the rev. Michael Tyson, dean of Stamford, by his first wife, the sister of Noah Curtis, of Walthorp, in Lincolnshire, born in the parish of All Saints, Stamford, November 19th, 1740, a celebrated antiquary and rector of this parish; but there is neither stone nor inscription to record his death and burial. Mr. Gough, in his *Camden's Britannia*, observes, “At the foot of the bishop's tomb was laid, May 6th, 1780, a friend to whose pencil and taste these sheets would have been much indebted, had he not been cut off in the early enjoyment of all his wishes.”

In the centre window of the chancel, and over the communion table, is a beautiful figure of Faith, with a cross in her hand, after the design by sir Joshua Reynolds, kn^t, for the window of “New College Chapel, Oxford;” and on a marble tablet is this inscription: “Underneath the chancel of this church reposeth all that was mortal of Judith, dowager lady Rous, the daughter and heiress of John Bedingfield, esq. of Beeston, in Norfolk, and wife of the rev. Edward Lockwood, of Dews Hall, in this parish and county. In 1749 she married, first, sir John Rous, bart. of Henham Hall, Suffolk, who deceased October 31st, 1771, and by him was the mother of John, the present lord Rous; second, of Frances, the late wife of sir Henry Peyton, bart.; and third, of Louisa Judith, wife of John Birch, esq. By her second husband, to whom she was married November 3d, 1772, she left no issue, and died in Portman-square, London, September the 10th, 1794, aged sixty-four years. Near unto her are likewise deposited the remains of the rev. Edward Lockwood, A.M. third son of Richard Lockwood and of Matilda Vernon, rector of Hanwell, in Oxfordshire, and of St. Peter's, in the town of Northampton, who died January the 22d, 1802, in the eighty-second year of his age. His second son, Edward Lockwood Percival, esq. having sustained, with the resignation and fortitude, which became him as a Christian and as a man, the protracted sufferings of a severe and painful illness, departed this life on July 6th, 1804. June 15th, 1790, he married Louisa Bridget, the second daughter of the late lord George Manners Sutton, of Kellham, in the county of Nottingham, youngest son of John, the third duke of Rutland, and by her, who died February 5th, 1800, left four surviving children, *viz.* Edward, George Harvey, Louisa Elizabeth, and Frances Lucy. Whereof, George Harvey, born February 1st, 1793, captain in his Majesty's Coldstream regiment of foot guards, followed his excellent parents, on November the 11th, 1815, and was interred with his father and grandfather in the vault of his family in the chancel. He was not more respected in the public duties of his profession, than respectable and beloved in the endearing intercourse of domestic life. Those who knew him best will bear the readiest testimony to the merits of his character, and will join with his sorrowing relations in deploring their early and untimely loss.”

On a mural monument of white marble: H. S. E. “Cum conjugē charissimā Johannes Tooke, A.M. theologus cruditus, concionator gravis, pastor vigilans, quā sedulū et fidus fuerit præceptor, quā in discernendis ingeniis sagax, quā in erudiendis et excolendis fælix, testatur cum hoc comitatu utraque academia scholam Stortfordiensem fraternā primū operā adjustus deinde solus ad tantam celebritatem ex humili statu evexit ut scholarum illa maximē illustrium gloriam æmuletur, et recti cultus ex illo fonte derivati lateque fusi sæculo se profecerint uxorem duxit Susannam Roberti Taylor, gen^e filiam ex quā filios suscepit tres Thomam, Johannem, et Robertum, filiam unicam Susannam. Thomas septennis

BOOK II. mortuus Stortfordiæ sepultus est, hic cum parentibus requiescit Johannes, S. T. B. vir si quis alius simplex, apertus, candidus, comis, facilis, facetus, ita vero facetiis deditus, ut seria et sacra non negligeret, delectare et delectari promptus, amicos sociorum cætus indole ductus celebravit libenter tamen et utiliter potuit esse solus. Erat enim eo usque consortii convivalis appetens, ut esset simul librorum literarumque studiosus omnibus humanitèr amicis amicissimè.

H. S. E. "In this tomb lies, with his beloved wife, John Tooke, A.M. a learned theologian, an impressive preacher, a vigilant pastor. How attentive and faithful a preceptor he was, how skilful in discovering the natural bent of the minds of his pupils, and how fortunate in teaching and cultivating them, not only this county, but either University will bear witness. The school at Stortford having first settled, with attentive assiduity, he afterwards raised from a low condition to so great celebrity, that it emulated the glory of the most illustrious schools; and true learning, derived from this foundation, and spread widely abroad, gave a character to the age. He married Susanna, the daughter of Robert Taylor, gent. by whom he had three sons, Thomas, John, Robert, and one daughter, Susanna. Thomas died at the age of seven, and was buried at Stortford. Here with his parents rests John Tooke, S. T. B. a man of plain integrity; candid, polite, and condescending: in conversation facetious, but, when required, never forgetful of seriousness and propriety: prompt both to please and to be pleased; though fond of the society of his friends, yet at proper times he could be alone. For he was just so far a lover of convivial sociality, as to be at once studious of books and literature, with politeness to every one, and affection to his friends."

Underneath is the following: "Fratre diu convictori amantissimo amantissimè utebatur, ea denique fuit illi hilaritas morumque suavitas quæ consuetudinem ejus reddidit exoptatissimum quapropter et dilectus vixit et desideratus decessit hoc pietatis et amoris sui monumentum poni curavit Robertus, filiorum natu minimus suas etiam mortales exuvias huic sepulchro olim mandaturus. Pater obiit Nov. 6, An. Dom. 1745, æt. sixty-seven. Mater ob. Mar. 17, 1749, ætat. seventy-two. Frater ob. Nov. 18, 1764, ætat. fifty-seven."

Translation: "With his loving brother, who was long his companion, he lived most affectionately. Such in fine was his hilarity and sweetness of manners, as to render his company most desirable, wherefore he was, whilst alive, beloved, when dead, regretted. This monument of his affection and love was erected by Robert, his youngest son, whose mortal remains are hereafter also to be deposited in the same tomb."

On the floor, with numerous effigies of children, the offspring of the deceased: "Of your charyte pray for the soules of Robert Barefoot, cytezyn and mercer of London, and Katheryne hys wyff; whyche Robert decessy'd the xxii day of June, 1546, on whose soules ye Lord Jhu have mercy."

In the chancel, upon a pyramid of white and veined marble: "Near this place lye the remains of Mrs. Matilda Lockwood, daughter of George Vernon, esq. of Sudbury, in Derbyshire, by Catherine, daughter of sir Thomas Vernon, knt. and wife of Richard Lockwood, esq. of Dews Hall, in this parish, with whom she lived, in all conjugal affection, thirty-one years, and had a numerous offspring, of which five sons and two daughters are now living. To her husband she endeared herself by every act of kindness and condescension; to her children by an attentive impartial care of them, with a prudent, not indulgent, tenderness. To her relations she was respectful. With her friends remarkably cheerful, open, and sincere; to all mankind affable; to her inferiors very obliging: and by all who knew her, whether near or at a distance, she was esteemed one of the most amiable and best of women; for she had all the advantages of a natural charming temper, accomplished behaviour, and good understanding, that could adorn this life; and all the inward blessings of Christian virtue and piety which might entitle her to a better. She died November the 25th, in the year of our Lord 1743, and the fifty-fourth of her age, to whose memory her loving and mournful husband put up this marble as the last tribute of his esteem."

Beneath which is the following: "Be it sacred, likewise, to the memory of Richard Lockwood, esq. second son of Richard Lockwood, esq. of Gayton, in Northamptonshire, by Susannah, daughter and sole heiress of Edward Cutts, esq." Early in life he went to Turkey to improve his fortune; but his elder

brother dying, to whose estate he was heir, he returned to England, and, being of an active disposition, not only carried on an extensive traffic for some years, but, being chosen into several parliaments, gave a constant attendance, serving his country and constituents with an untainted integrity and unshaken firmness. In the decline of life, thinking himself incapable of doing his country any further service, he retired from the fatigues of business to his seat at Dews Hall, and passed the last scene of his life in a cheerful enjoyment of his family and friends, and a truly religious service of his God. Thus prepared, he arrived at that period of life which, at best, is but labour and sorrow, and, by a gradual decay, expired on the 31st day of August, 1756, in the seventy-eighth year of his age."

On the other side of the north window of the chancel, and on the same wall, is a monument of white marble; in the upper part of which is a representation of Hope, with an anchor attached to her left hand, and her right reclining upon an urn, in alto relievo; executed by the late Joseph Wilton, esq. sculptor to his late majesty, king George the third, and the Royal Academy. (The rev. Michael Tyson, F. R. S. rector of Lambourne, in a letter to Richard Gough, esq. *vide Nichol's Literary Anecdotes*, Svo. vol. viii. page 637, of November 15th, 1778, writes: "One of the most elegant modern monuments I ever saw was last week put up in my church for a Lockwood—a figure of Hope leaning on an antique urn, in alto relievo, by Wilton. Mark—I had ten guineas for allowing it a place.") On the urn is a shield, Lockwood impaling Conyers, and this inscription on the base: "Near this place are interred the remains of John Lockwood, esq. second son of Richard Lockwood, of Dews Hall, in this county. He married Matilda, second daughter of Edward Conyers, esquire, of Copt Hall, in Essex, by whom he had a daughter, Matilda, born April 8th, 1763, now living. This memorial was erected by his afflicted widow, in the year of our Lord 1778."

"In the same vault are since deposited the remains of the above-mentioned Matilda Lockwood, widow; who, surviving her husband upwards of sixteen years, died June 3d, 1793, in the sixty-seventh year of her age."

Opposite to this last is a monument of a pyramidal form, on the summit of which is a shield, Lockwood impaling Vernon, and this inscription:—"Sacred to the memory of Anna Catherina, wife of Richard Lockwood, esq. of Dews Hall, in this parish. She died on May 31st, 1757, aged forty-seven years. In the same vault are interred the remains of the aforesaid Richard Lockwood, esq. who died on March 25th, 1797, aged eighty-four years."

In the large window on the right, adjoining the chancel, on a marble tablet:—"To the affectionately beloved and truly honoured memory of Matilda Lockwood Maydwell, who, in the bloom of youth, resigned herself to her God, on the 22d of March, A.D. 1800. And to her infant daughter, aged three weeks and two days, the much-afflicted husband and father erects this small token of his sincere regard. 'The Lord gave—the Lord hath taken away, but blessed be the name of the Lord.'"

Against the south wall of the nave, on a beautiful block of alabaster, surmounted with a classically decorated lamp of the same materials, is the following inscription: "Sacred to the memory of Matilda Catherine Lockwood, daughter of the late rev. Edward Lockwood, of Dews Hall, in this parish, who died on the 26th day of March, 1832, ætat. seventy-four. 'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.' This tablet was erected as a testimony of affection by her nephew and niece, Edward and Frances Lockwood Percival." An urn in front bears the arms of Lockwood impaling Maydwell and Lockwood.

Between the pulpit and chancel: "Here lyes interred ye body of Robert Blomfeild, gent. who dyed on ye 31st of August, in the yeare of our Lord 1602. And also of his three grandsons; of whom John was interred January ye 23d, 1642; Thomas was buried Apr. ye 7th, 1644: and also Mr. John Blomfeild was buried Dec. ye 15th, 1687. These three last were the sonnes of Mr. John Blomfeild, gent."

On the southern wall, on an urn of white marble: "In memory of Mrs. Mary Mitchell, who departed this life, August 13th, 1788, aged fifty-two years."

In a vault in the church-yard, near the eastern extremity of the church, under a square tomb, encircled by iron rails, have been deposited the bodies of admiral sir Edward Hughes, knight of the bath, and lady

BOOK II. Ruth Hughes, his wife; and of her sons by her first husband, *viz.* Captain Henry Ball, R.N. and David Ball, esq. of Bishops Hall. Sir Edward died on the 17th of Jan. 1794, aged seventy-seven. The lady Ruth Hughes died Sept. 30, 1800, aged sixty-nine; David Ball, esq. died the 17th of August, 1798, aged thirty-eight; captain Henry Ball, died August the 6th, 1792, aged thirty-eight. The interest of one hundred pounds, three per cent. bank annuities, is left for ever to the heir of this family, for keeping in good repair "this vault tomb, and drains, of the late sir Edward Hughes, knight of the bath."

On a tomb, near the west end of the church, under the expanded branches of a venerable oak: "Here lyeth the remains of Mr. John Taylor, (late of Lambourne Hall, in this parish,) who died on March 28th, 1806, aged thirty-seven years."

Sir Edw.
Hughes.

Sir Edward Hughes, knight of the bath, admiral of the blue squadron of his Majesty's fleet, served in the navy for upwards of half a century. He was made a lieutenant for his services at the capture of Porto Bello, Nov. 22, A.D. 1739, by admiral Vernon, under whom he served; as, subsequently, under admiral Boscawen, at the taking of Louisbourg, July 26th, A.D. 1758; and with sir Charles Saunders at the capture of Quebec, Sept. 18th, 1759. As an admiral, he was commander-in-chief in the East Indies during the American war, and supported the honour of his country in several actions with an active enemy, commanded by admiral Suffrein, to whom he was always inferior in the number of ships, particularly in the actions of the 17th February, and off Trincomalee, April 12th, and those of the 6th of July and the 3d of September, 1782. In private life, the goodness of his heart prompted him to acts of benevolence,* which, though not ostentatious in themselves, will remain recorded in the memories of many. He departed this life at his seat, Luxborough House, in Chigwell, full of years and honour.

STAPLEFORD ABBOTS.

Staple-
ford Ab-
bots.

Two parishes, bearing the Saxon name of Stapleford, are separated from each other by the river Rodon; this name is applied to a ford over a river, made conve-

* The greater part of the road leading from Lambourne End to the Vicarage Lane, Chigwell, and over Chigwell Row, was commenced and perfected at his sole expense.

Charita-
ble bene-
factions.

Thomas Barefoot, of Lambourne Hall, gent. by his last will, in 1590, gave six shillings and eight pence, to be paid yearly at Michaelmas to the poor of Lambourne, out of the profits of a piece of land, called Syms Croft, in this parish; (now paid by E. L. Percival, esq. the present lord of the manor.)—Mr. John Bromfield, who died on the 15th of December, 1687, bequeathed the sum of ten shillings per annum, out of the farm called Priors, payable on the first of January, for the use of the parish of Lambourne; (now paid by sir John Smijth, bart. the present owner of this estate.)—Richard Lockwood, esq. in 1736, presented a silver flaggon for the communion service.—There has also been devised, for the repairs, decoration, and ornament of the church of this parish, a house called the Church House, at Lambourne End, and two fields of mowing land, in the whole consisting of four acres, and of the value of eighteen pounds per annum.—Also two pieces of land in the Common Mead of Theydon Bois, of the annual value of two pounds and upwards.—N.B. The rents of the said house and two parcels of land have always been received by the churchwarden, and accounted for by him.—There are at Abridge some cottages or tenements for the use of the poor of this parish, disposed of according to the orders of the vestry.

nient for foot-passengers, with piles or stepples, and was what might probably have been found here useful and necessary. Stapleford Abbots has received its distinguishing appellation from having belonged to the abbot and convent of St. Edmund's-bury, in Suffolk, to which it had been given by the lord of this manor: and this gift is traditionally recorded to have been conferred in consequence of an occurrence which took place in 1010, when the body of St. Edmund the martyr, having been removed from Bederichesworth (afterwards St. Edmund's-bury) to London, because the Danes infested that part of the country, was, three years afterwards, brought back again, and resting here on its way, the lord of this manor received it into his house. He is said to have been at that time confined to his bed by a languishing sickness, but, as a reward for this pious act, was miraculously restored to perfect health, and as a token of gratitude, gave this estate to the abbey.

The labouring part of the population live in pleasant cottages, generally at a considerable distance from each other, and there is everywhere an appearance of health and cheerfulness. Distant from Romford six, and from London fourteen miles. There are three manors.

The mansion of the capital manor of Stapleford Hall, or Stapleford Regis, is a short distance south from the church: having belonged to St. Edmund's-bury before the Conquest, it had retained possession of it at the survey; and they had the privilege, as at Harlow, of being exempt from the regards of the forest. This estate, in 1540, on the dissolution of monasteries, was granted to John Maynard; who had with it the advowson of the church, and Haman's Grove. Again passing to the crown, it was on that account named Stapleford-Regis; Grace, lady Carteret and countess of Granville, held it by grant or lease till her death, in 1774; from whom it descended to her son, the earl of Granville: now in the possession of George Ffitch, esq. son of William Ffitch, who also had this estate.

Staple-
ford Hall.

The manor-house of Batayles, or Batail's Hall, is a quarter of a mile from the church, westward; the estate was in possession of five freemen in the time of the Saxons, and at the survey belonged to Robert Gernon, surnamed Montfichet; in 1165 it appears to have been holden under him by Richard Battaile, whose son, William de Bataile, gave and confirmed all the tithes of his lordship of Stapleford, to the priory of the Holy Trinity, in London; except an acre of wheat, and an acre of oats, which anciently were divided between the churches of Stapleford and Lambourn. Also, he gave them the tithes of his assart lands in those parishes to pray for the health of his soul, &c. And he made this grant, by laying a gold ring on the altar of the said church of the Holy Trinity: he calls it his gift, yet owns it was granted by Harvey Bataille, his great grandfather. This deed had a seal of green wax, with the figure of a large bird; its wings expanded.

Batayle.

Simon de Bataile, the next recorded possessor, was succeeded by his son, sir

BOOK II. Richard de Bataile, who married Katherine, daughter and heiress of sir Andrew le Blund, lord of Tendring, by whom he had two daughters, his co-heiresses; Margery was married to sir William de Sutton, who, in her right, held these estates, in 1302, of Giles de Plaiz, a descendant of William de Montfichet; and it continued in the Sutton family till it was conveyed by Margery, daughter and heiress of the last sir John de Sutton, to her husband, John Walton, esq., by whom she had John Walton, esq. the father of Richard and Joan; Richard de Walton, esq. held this manor of sir John Howard, and dying in 1408, was succeeded by his sister Joan, married to sir John Howard, jun. eldest son of the above-mentioned sir John, by Margaret, heiress of the Plaiz family; he died in 1424, leaving Elizabeth, his only daughter and heiress, afterwards married to John de Vere, the twelfth earl of Oxford: who being beheaded for his loyalty to king Henry the sixth, in 1461, this and his other estates were forfeited; but restored to his grandson John, the thirteenth earl of Oxford, who died possessed of it, in 1572, as did John, the fourteenth earl, in 1526, both holding it of the abbot of St. Osyth. The family of Smith is traditionally reported to have possessed this estate; in 1557, Thomas Smith presented to the living; and Philip Smith, esq. according to Holman, held his first court here, in 1583. In 1590, Ann Waller died, holding, as is supposed, this estate, described as two parts of the manor of Batteshall; but having no heirs, it passed to the crown. In 1612, it had become the property of Richard Wiseman, esq. and afterwards was in the possession of Carew Hervey Mildmay, esq. of Marks; and is now the property of lady Mildmay.

Albins.

The manor of Albins is partly in this parish, and partly in Navestock; the mansion is in Stapleford, and is an ancient building, supposed to have been erected from a design of Inigo Jones: it was completely repaired in the last century by Sir John Abdy, who has very judiciously preserved the original style of architecture. It is inclosed in a park.

The estate of Albins was made part of the endowment of a chantry founded in Wivenhoe church, in 1413, by Robert Newport, John Tyrell, Ralph Chamberleyn, and others. On the dissolution of monasteries, it was holden on lease of the crown, in 1545, by William Luter; and afterwards was ordered to be let to John Smithe: but in 1548, it was granted, by Edward the sixth, with other estates belonging to the chantries in Wivenhoe, to Walter Cely; whose son George conveyed it, in 1569, to George Wiseman, and Mary his wife; when it became the property of William Ffitch, esq. who died in 1578; afterwards it belonged to sir John Wood, knt. clerk of the signet, who, on his decease in 1610, left it to his daughters, lady Magdalen, wife of sir Thomas Edmonds; Ann Wood; and Thomas Clarke, esq. his grandson by his daughter Mary. Lady Magdalen dying in 1614, her husband is supposed to have enjoyed this estate till his decease in 1639: he was employed in several important

embassies and negotiations, by queen Elizabeth and king James the first, and constituted treasurer of the household.* By his lady, he had sir Henry Edmonds, knight of the bath, who died without issue in 1635; Isabel, married to Henry, lord Delawar; Mary, married to Robert Mildmay, grandfather of Benjamin, earl Fitzwalter; and Louisa. Albins was purchased of these co-heiresses, by Anthony Abdy, esq. whose descendants have retained possession of it to the present time.†

* See his life in *Biographia Britannica*.

† The family of Abdy were seated at Abdy House, in the hamlet of that name, in the parish of Waith, near Barnesley, in Yorkshire, in 1432, the eleventh of Henry the sixth: how long previous to that time they had been there, is not known. Richard Abdy married Mrs. Joan Musgrave, by whom he had Robert Abdy, esq. of Abdy; who marrying Mrs. Eleanor Metcalf, had Robert, who by his wife, Joan Norreys, was the father of Thomas Abdy, esq. of Abdy; who married Cicely, daughter of William Tijas, of Yorkshire, by whom he had Roger Abdy, merchant, of London, who married Mary, daughter of Richard White, esq. of Hutton Hall, in Essex, and died in 1595, leaving Edmund and Anthony; Edmund Abdy marrying Judith, daughter of sir Christopher Yelverton, judge of the Common Pleas, had his only son, sir Christopher Abdy, who married the youngest daughter of sir Herbert Croft, of Suffolk. Anthony Abdy, esq. the younger son of Roger Abdy, was alderman of London, and one of its sheriffs in 1630: he purchased the estate of Albins, in Essex, and died in 1640, leaving by Abigail, daughter of sir Thomas Campbell, knight and alderman of London, besides other children, first, Thomas; second, sir Robert of Albins, in Essex, created a baronet in 1660, which title became extinct in 1759; third, sir John Abdy, of Moor, in Salcot Verley, in Essex, created a baronet in 1660, which title has become extinct. Alice, one of the daughters of Anthony Abdy, was married to sir John Bramston, knight of the bath, and Thomas Abdy, esq. the eldest son, of Felix Hall, in Essex, was created a baronet in 1641. Sir Thomas married, first, Mary, daughter of Lucas Corsellis, merchant, of London, by whom he had James, who died an infant; Rachel, wife of Philip Gurdon, esq. of Assingdon Hall, in Suffolk; and Abigail, wife of sir Mark Guion, knight: secondly, sir Thomas married Anne, daughter of sir Thomas Soame, knight, alderman of London, by whom he had sir Anthony, his successor; Thomas, who died in 1697; William, who died in 1682; Sarah, who died an infant; Anna, who died in 1682, unmarried; Mary, wife of Wentworth Garneys, esq. of Boyland Hall, in Norfolk; Joanna, who died in 1710; Alice, wife of William Stane, esq. of Forest Hall, in Essex; and Judith, who died an infant. Sir Thomas died in 1685, and was buried in Kelvedon church. Sir Anthony Abdy, the second baronet, married Mary, only daughter and heiress of Richard Milward, D.D. rector of Great Braxted, and canon of Windsor, (by Mary, daughter of sir Anthony Thomas, of Cobham, in Surrey, by Mary, daughter of sir William Ayloff, of Great Braxted,) by whom he had Thomas, who died an infant; sir Anthony Thomas, his successor; sir William; Charles, Richard, Mary, Anne, Joanna, Elizabeth, Rachel, and Margaret. Sir Anthony died in 1704, and was buried near his father, in Kelvedon church. Sir Anthony Thomas Abdy, the third baronet, married, first, Mary, daughter and co-heiress of Hope Gifford, esq. of Colchester, by whom he had no issue: he married, secondly, Charlotte, daughter of sir Thomas Barnardiston, bart. of Kenton or Kedington, in Suffolk, by whom he had Charlotte, wife of John Williams, esq. second son of sir John Williams, knight, of Tendering Hall, who rebuilt Felix Hall in an elegant manner, and, having procured an Act of Parliament for that purpose, in 1761, sold it to Daniel Matthews, esq. His second daughter was Elizabeth, married to Thomas Reeves, esq. of Dorsetshire. Sir Anthony Thomas married, thirdly, Anne, daughter of Thomas Williams, esq. of Tendering Hall, in Suffolk, by whom he had no issue: he died in 1733, and was succeeded by his next brother, sir William Abdy, the fourth baronet, who seated himself at Cobham, in Surrey, and married the daughter and sole heiress of Philip Stotherd, esq. of Terling, in Essex, by whom he had Anthony Thomas, his successor; the rev. Stotherd, who married, first, Theodosia, youngest daughter of sir Robert Abdy, bart. of Albins; se-

Abdy
family.

BOOK II.

Knowle.

Knowle, or Knowle's Hill, is a mile distant south-westward from the church. Part of the stately mansion belonging to this estate is now a farm-house. It is charmingly situated in a very unequal, hilly, and beautiful district. The celebrated Henry Spencer, bishop of Norwich, had formerly a seat here, and the remains of a moat in an adjacent wood, bears the name of the "Bishop's moat;" which is traditionally reported to have been paved with marble: most of the lands of this estate are in Lambourne. In the reign of queen Elizabeth, it belonged to the family of Stonard, of Loughton, and many of them are buried in this church: Francis Stonard, who married Lucy, daughter of sir Clement Higham, chief baron of the exchequer, held this and other estates here, and was succeeded by his son Clement, who died in 1612,* leaving, by his wife Mabel, daughter of Roger Herlakenden, Francis Stonard, or Stoner, his heir, who married Anne, or Jafie, daughter of Edward Bacon, esq. of Codenham, in Suffolk: their daughter and heiress Amy, married to George Waldron,† esq. conveyed to him this estate: he died in 1690, and his wife in 1712, aged eighty-six: her epitaph styles her the last surviving child of Francis Stonard, esq. of Knowle's Hill: their only son George, a student in Christ's College, Cambridge, died in 1681, aged seventeen;‡ sir John Fortescue, lord of the capital manor in Lambourne, pur-
 condly, he married Harriet, youngest daughter of Peyton Altham, esq. of Mark Hall, near Harlow, in Essex, and died in 1773, without issue; the third son was sir William; sir William, the fourth baronet, had also a daughter, wife of Dr. Rutherford, regius professor of divinity in Cambridge, and archdeacon of Essex, who died in 1771, leaving a son, Thomas, who, on the death of his uncle, sir Anthony Thomas, in 1775, succeeded to his estate, and took his name. He married Mary, daughter of James Hayes, esq. a bencher of the Middle Temple and a Welch judge, by whom he had nine children: first, John Rutherford Abdy, esq. of Albins, in Essex, who married Caroline Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of James Hatch, of Claybury, in Essex, esq.; second, Anthony Thomas; third, Charlotte Ann, ob. s. p.; fourth, rev. Charles Boyd Abdy, rector of Theydon Gernon, in the county of Essex; fifth, Margaret, ob.; sixth, James Nicholas Abdy; seventh, Edward Strutt Abdy; eighth, Mary; and, ninth, Carolipe. He died in 1798, and was succeeded by his son, John Rutherford Abdy, who married Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of James Hatch, esq. Sir William died in 1750. Sir Anthony Thomas, the fifth baronet, was one of the king's council, and twice member of parliament for the borough of Knaresborough, in Yorkshire; he married Katharine, daughter and co-heiress of — Hamilton, esq. of Chancery-lane, London, and dying, in 1775, without issue, was succeeded by his brother, sir William Abdy, the sixth baronet, who pursued the naval profession, and rose to the rank of captain. He married Mary, daughter of — Gordon, esq. of Moor Place, in Hertfordshire, by whom he had sir William Abdy, his successor; Katharine Mary; Charlotte Anne; and Harriet. Sir William died July 21st, 1803. Sir William, the seventh and present baronet, married, June the 3d, 1806, Anne, eldest daughter of Richard, marquis Wellesley, K.P. and K.C.; creation July 7, 1641. Arms of Abdy: Or, two chevronels between three trefoils, sable. Crest: An eagle's head erased proper.

* He also held in this parish and Lambourne, a messuage and lands called Wrights, or Dallons; Shepherds Croft, Little Sawyers, and Little Stanes, Great and Little Perry fields, and Bushie Croft; Black Croft, Sedwyne, the Mote and Mote Grove, Barne Fields, and Wheelers Ridden.

† The arms of Waldron on this monument are: Three bulls' heads, caboshed.

‡ The arms of Stonard, on a monument in this church, are: Azure, two bars dancettée or, on a chief argent a crescent gules.

chased this seat, and making extensive improvements, came and resided here: well executed portraits of the family are yet to be seen in one of the rooms of the house. The present owner of this estate is Edward Lockwood Percival, esq. of Lambourne.*

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is of one pace and equal breadth with the chancel; a neat gallery has been erected at the west end, and the whole building is in good repair.

Church.

A chapel on the north of the chancel is the burial place of the Abdy family.

The monastery of St. Edmundsbury retained this rectory till the dissolution, when it was granted, with the manor, to John Maynard, supposed for a term of years, for it was, in 1560, again vested in the crown, which has retained possession to the present time. It has thirty acres of glebe lands.

The parsonage house was rebuilt by the rev. William Gould, the incumbent in 1607.†

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to four hundred and fifty-eight, and, in 1831, to five hundred and seven.

* An endowed charity-school, near the house, bears this inscription: "Glory to God: Knolls Hill free-school, for teaching poor children to read and write, erected and endowed at the sole expense of sir John Fortescue, of Knoll Hill, in this parish, knt., formerly solicitor-general to king George the first, sometime baron of the Exchequer; afterwards a judge of the King's Bench, and one of his majesty's judges of the Common Pleas; doctor of laws, and fellow of the Royal Society in the year of our Lord Christ, 1734, in the reign of the same most excellent prince." Forty children are taught on the free system.

Knolls
Hill
school.

† An elegant marble monument in the chancel bears the following: "Sacred to the memory of sir John Abdy, bart. late of Albyns, in this parish, descended from a race of virtuous ancestors; of whom was Anthony Abdy, esq. alderman of London. He was succeeded by his second son, sir Robert Abdy, bart. who married Katharine, daughter of sir John Gayer, knt. by whom he had issue twelve children. Sir John Abdy, bart. his eldest son, married Jane, only daughter of George Nicholas, esq. younger son of that truly loyal and faithful servant of the crown, sir Edward Nicholas, principal secretary of state in the reigns of king Charles the first and second. The singular merit of this lady deserves to be particularly mentioned, who, left a widow in the twenty-fifth year of her age, was not more distinguished for her piety and charity, than for her rejecting every offer of a second marriage, from a real maternal affection to her children. She, with her husband, lies buried in the vault belonging to this family: where are deposited also the remains of sir Robert Abdy, bart. their only son; and their eldest daughter, Anne, who in imitation of her much valued parents, spent her life in the practice of every Christian duty. Jane, their youngest daughter, is now living. Sir Robert Abdy, bart. married Theodosia, only daughter and heiress of George Bramston, doctor of laws, by whom he had issue Jane, John, Robert, and Theodosia. Jane and Robert died young: Theodosia married the rev. Stotherd Abdy, M.A. rector of Theydon Gernon, in this county, and died Feb. 20, 1758, and was here interred. Sir John Abdy, bart. the eldest son, died on April 1, 1759. He inherited the good qualities of his excellent father, whose unshaken integrity, deep knowledge in antiquity, and great humanity, gained him universal love and esteem. The said sir John Abdy and his father were successively the representatives of this county in five parliaments, where they distinguished themselves by the most disinterested attachment, and steady adherence to the true interest of their country. Sir John Abdy, bart. settled the inheritance of his estate on the posterity of his ancestor, the above-mentioned Anthony Abdy, esq. but bequeathed it for life to his aunt Jane, the before-

Inscrip-
tions.

BOOK II.

STAPLEFORD TANY.

Staple-
ford Tany.

The family of Tany had considerable possessions in this county, besides the capital manor of this parish, where many of them resided, and have left their name, which has been retained as its distinguishing appellation. This small parish is thinly inhabited, the only business attended to being that of husbandry: it extends from Theydon Mount to the river Rodon, and is intersected by the road from Ongar to London, from which city it is distant fifteen miles.

Before the Conquest, the lands of this parish belonged to Godric; and, at the survey, were in the possession of Suene, of Essex, whose under-tenant was Siric. And Robert (supposed Gernon) who had an estate in the other Stapleford, held one hide here, given to him by the Conqueror.* On account of its belonging to Suene, who was lord of Raleigh, it was afterwards holden of that honour.

Staple-
ford Tany
Hall.

The mansion of the capital manor is southward from the church, and not far distant: this estate was one of the eight knights' fees held by Richard Fitz-William, in the time of Henry the second and Richard the first; William Fitz-Richard, his son, held two carucates here in 1260. His daughter and heiress, Margery, was married to sir Richard de Tany, to whom she conveyed this estate, which he held at the time of his death in 1270, or 1271. He was grandson of sir Peter de Tany, sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1236, 1237, 1238, and 1239, and son of John de Tany, who gave the manor of Theydon Bois to Waltham Abbey, to the conveyance of which this sir Richard was a witness. He was sheriff of the two counties in 1260, in which he was made keeper of the peace in 1263, and governor of Hadleigh Castle in 1268; and he obtained a licence to empark his wood in Stapleford, within the forest: he was succeeded by his son Richard, who died in 1296, and left his son Roger, or Robert de Tany, or Thany, whose son Laurence succeeded on his father's death in 1301; he was married, but had no issue,* and his sister Margaret became his heiress, on his death in 1317. She was the wife of John de Drokensford, who, in her right, presented to this living in 1321, and had free warren in all her lands in Essex: he had also West Horndon. Thomas de Drokensford, their son, died in 1361, leaving Anne, his only daughter and heiress, afterwards married to Thomas, son and heir of sir Thomas Mandeville, of Black Notley, who presented to this living, as sir Thomas Mandeville, in 1370, and 1373; his son sir Thomas, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter

named Jane, widow of the rev. Edward Cranke, M.A. rector of Hatford, in Berks, who, out of true affection and esteem, caused this monument to be erected."

On the ground is the following: "Here lies the body of John Fortescue, esq. barrister-at-law, eldest son of sir John Fortescue, of Nolls Hill, in this parish, knt. one of the judges of the court of Common Pleas, who died at Tours, in France, and was brought over hither out of a Popish country for a decent Protestant burial. He died at Tours aforesaid, on the 9th Dec. new style, aged thirty-one, 1748."

* His wife's name was Margaret, married, after his death, to sir Thomas de Weston.

of sir — Wanton, had Thomas, Joan, and Alice. Thomas died before his father, in 1499, under age, unmarried; and was succeeded in this and other estates by his sisters, co-heiresses. Joan was married to John Barry, by whom she had John, who died without issue, and Joan, who was married to a Lombard, named Frankanel, who had by her Raphael and Daniel. After his father's death, Raphael would have entered on the manor of Stapleford, but Clement Spice, great grandson of Alice Mandeville, filed a bill in chancery against him; in consequence of which, the said Alice had this estate. Her first husband was Helmingius, or Elmyrn Leget, or Legat, sheriff of Hertfordshire and Essex in 1401 and 1408; by whom she had her son Thomas, who was eighteen years of age at the time of her decease, which is all that is known relating to him. Her second husband was Richard Spice, by whom, on her death in 1420, she left her son, Roger Spice, who succeeded to this inheritance, and presented to the church from 1431 to 1452; he died in 1459, and was buried in Black Notley church. His son and heir, Clement Spice, in 1485, sold this manor, with the advowson of the church, to William Scott, esq. who died in 1491; and with Margery his wife, who died in 1505, is buried in this church: he was succeeded in this estate by John Scott, esq. sen.; Thomas, his second son; Walter, who died in 1550; Roger, his son, who died in 1586; George, eldest son of Roger, died in 1588, at the age of twenty-nine, leaving Elizabeth and Mary very young, his co-heiresses. Elizabeth, the eldest daughter, conveyed this estate to her husband, sir Edward Alleyn, bart. of Hatfield Priory, sheriff of Essex in 1629; their offspring were Edmund, George, Robert, John, and Dorothea, who died unmarried; Martha, married to the rev. Joshua Blower; and Mary, the wife of Robert Clive, esq. Sir Edward died in 1638, Edmund, his eldest son, having died before him, in 1633, leaving, by Mary his wife, daughter of Nicholas Miller, esq. of Wrotham, in Kent, an infant named Edmund; and Elizabeth, married, first, to John Robinson, esq. of Denston Hall, in Suffolk, and secondly, to sir William Jones, knt. attorney-general to king Charles the second. Sir Edmund Alleyn succeeded his grandfather in title and estate, and married Frances, only daughter and heiress of Thomas Gent, esq. of Moynes, in Steeple Bumpsted, and had by her Edmund, Frances, and Arabella, of whom the last was born in 1655, and, on the death of her brother, sir Edmund, in 1656, and his lady in 1657, without surviving offspring, became sole heiress to the very considerable family estates. She was married, first, to Francis Thompson, esq. of Hambleton, in Yorkshire, and had by him William Thompson, esq.: her second husband was the hon. lord George Howard, eldest son of Henry, duke of Norfolk, by Jane Bickerton, his second wife. She died in 1746, having previously, in 1716, sold this estate to sir Edward Smijth, bart. of Hill Hall, whose descendants have retained possession of it to the present time.

The manor of Suttons is in the southern part of the parish, near Passingford-bridge, Suttons.

BOOK II. a mile south-east from the church. It is supposed to have been taken from the capital manor, and is not mentioned in records till 1474, when it was said to be holden of Clement Spice, by Constance,* widow of sir John Stafford, late earl of Wiltshire; Edward, earl of Wiltshire, was her son and heir. Afterwards, this estate belonged to the Luther family: John Luther, who died in 1567, is styled of Stapleford Tawney; there appears no evidence of his possessing this manor, yet it belonged to his son Richard, who was of this parish, and continued in possession of his descendants during many generations,† till it was conveyed by Rebecca, daughter of John Luther, esq. to her husband, Florian Geebel, esq. of Walthamstow; who, on his death, left by her John Geebel, esq. and Rebecca Geebel, wife of Mr. John Voguel, sugar refiner, of London.

Church. The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, has a nave and chancel, the chancel having a south aisle; the belfry, and a spire, are of wood. The rectory is a good building, and there is a valuable glebe of one hundred and sixteen acres.

In 1821, there were two hundred and eighty-three, and, in 1831, two hundred and ninety-seven inhabitants.

NAVESTOCK.

Navestock From the boundaries of this parish northward it extends to South Weald, and from the hundred of Chelmsford on the east to Stapleford Tany westward; its computed circumference is twenty-five miles. The soil is of various kinds, generally on the hills light and gravelly; the valleys and low lands are wet and heavy, the reverse of what is generally observable in Essex. The houses are not numerous, the chief employment of the inhabitants being the business of husbandry. The name in records is variously written Nasestoca, Nassestoka, Nassetochus, and Nasingstoke, or Nastoke. It is distant from Romford seven, and from London sixteen miles.

An estate in this parish was given to the cathedral of St. Paul's, in London, by king

* She was daughter and heiress of sir Henry Greene, of Drayton, in Northamptonshire, and wife of sir John Stafford, younger son of Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham, created earl of Wiltshire in 1469; he died in 1474. Their son Edward, earl of Wiltshire, dying without issue, Constance's inheritance became the inheritance of her aunt Isabel, sister and heiress of sir Henry Greene, wife of Richard Vere, of Addington, in Northamptonshire.—*Miles' Catal. of Honour*, p. 984.

† John, son of Richard Luther, of Suttons, succeeded his father, and married Jane, daughter of — Winterflood, by whom he had Thomas Luther, who, by his wife Katharine, third daughter of Robert Bourne, of Blake Hall, in Bobbingworth, had Thomas Luther, his successor on his death in 1648. He married Ann, daughter and heiress of Luke Jackson, of London, by whom he had five sons and six daughters. He died in 1694, and was succeeded by his eldest son, John Luther, esq. who married Jane Luther, of Miles, and had by her six or seven sons, and three daughters, of whom only one son and one daughter attained the age of maturity. Thomas Luther, esq. being unmarried, and dying before his mother, settled the estate of Suttons upon her during her life, and, after her decease, on his sister Rebecca.

Edgar; yet the authenticity of this donation has been questioned by Mr. Newcourt, on the assumed inconsistency of the date, with the time of Odo, archbishop of Canterbury, whose signature appears on the deed; but, as Mr. Morant has observed, the archbishop, according to the best authors, did not die till 958, the year after that king's accession to the throne; it is, therefore, neither impossible nor improbable, that he should have been one of the witnesses to the king's grant; and the fact of the lands in question having belonged to the cathedral before the Conquest has not been disputed: they had been taken away from it, but were restored by the Conqueror on the day of his coronation; with the exemption from payment of all taxes, except for military expeditions, and for building and repairing castles and bridges; a privilege they had before enjoyed. Those who had holden and detained this possession from the church were two freemen, Houard and Hulci: another part of the parish was, holden by Turstin Ruffus; also seven freemen held two hides, and one priest held half a hide. At the time of the general survey, all these belonged to the canons of St. Paul's; and this, with other manors of the cathedral, had the grant from king Edward the second, that the purveyors should not take corn within their precincts for the king's household. At the reformation, king Henry the eighth having alienated this property from the church in 1544, in lieu of an equivalent hitherto undiscovered, it remained for nine years in the tenure of the crown; at length queen Mary the first, in the year 1553, granted not only the manor of Navestock, but also the rectory and advowson of the vicarage, to sir Edward Waldegrave, knt.; and in his descendants, the earls of Waldegrave, it has continued to the present time, during a period of two hundred and eighty years.

Boys Hall is a subordinate manor, of which the mansion is a mile distant from the church eastward; the name first occurs in records in the time of Henry the seventh, when it was holden of the dean and canons of St. Paul's, London, by Andrew Prior, who died in 1507, succeeded by his son John: in 1546, it belonged to John Prest, esq. whose daughter Frances was his heiress, and, in conjunction with her husband, by indenture, conveyed this estate to William Tusser and Charles Belfield; and they, in 1565, conveyed it to John Green, esq.* in whose descendants it continued till it

* He was descended from the ancient family of Greens, of Greens Norton, in Northamptonshire. Thomas, his son and heir, had, among other children, John and Robert. John Green, esq. the eldest son, was one of the judges of the sheriff's court in London thirty-seven years, and created a serjeant-at-law in 1640; he died in 1653, having had, by his wife Anne, daughter of James Blanchard, John, James, and four daughters. John Green, esq. educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, was of Lincoln's Inn; chosen recorder of London in 1659, and died in November the same year: by his wife Mary, daughter of Philip Jermin, esq. justice of the King's Bench, he had his son, John Green, esq. who was serjeant-at-law in 1700, and died in 1725. John Green, esq. his son and heir, was educated at St. John's College, Cambridge, as his great great grandfather, and others of his ancestors had been: he was also of Lincoln's Inn, and died in 1752, leaving his estate to his kinsman, Maurice Green, doctor of music.

BOOK II. was sold, in 1752, by Maurice Green, esq. doctor of music; after whose decease it was purchased by James, the second earl of Waldegrave.

Lost Hall. Lost Hall was formerly a manor, and belonged to John Sedley, at the time of his death in 1581: in 1654, it was purchased of sir William Sedley, bart. of Northfleet, in Kent, by John Green, esq. from whom it passed to earl Waldegrave.

Slades. Slades was a reputed manor, the property of Henry Torrel, esq. who died in 1525; whose son died in 1544, holding this estate of king Henry the eighth, who at that time possessed this lordship. The Howland family, of Stone Hall, in Little Canfield, were the next proprietors, till it was purchased by the noble family of Waldegrave.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Thomas, consists of a nave and south aisle; the north door is of ancient Saxon workmanship: there is a small belfry, and a spire, both of wood.*

Waldegrave family.

* Sir Edward Waldegrave (descended from a family originally resident at, and giving name to the parish of Waldegrave, in Northamptonshire, afterwards established themselves at Borley, in Essex, of which manor and estate they remain to this day the proprietors) was a principal officer in the household of princess Mary, subsequently queen of England, and therefore was deemed a proper person, with sir Robert Rochester, his uncle, and sir Francis Englefield, to be employed by king Edward the sixth and his council, in forbidding mass in the house of the said lady, which at that time was Copt Hall, near Epping; and these gentlemen, for their failure herein, incurred the king's displeasure to such a degree, that he committed them, in the first instance, to the Fleet Prison, and thence removed them to the Tower of London; but upon the king's death, on July 6th, 1553, they rose to the highest favour with queen Mary, more especially sir Edward Waldegrave, whom she admitted into her privy council, constituting him master of the great wardrobe, with a grant of the manor of Navestock, of Chewton, in Somersetshire, and of Hever Cobham, in Kent. On the day following her coronation, he was made a knight of the carpet; in April 1554, was appointed one of the commissioners for the trial of sir Nicholas Throckmorton, who was charged as an accomplice in Wyatt's rebellion. He represented Somersetshire with sir John Sydenham, knt. in 1551; and in the parliament which assembled at Westminster, on January 20th, 1557, and continued its sittings until the demise of the queen, was elected one of the members of the county of Essex; in which last year he was appointed, by the same sovereign, chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster, and also to the office of lieutenant of Waltham, or Epping Forest. In 1558, he received a commission, in conjunction with other privy counsellors, to dispose of the church lands then vested in the crown. These were his rewards of fidelity to a queen, to whom he had long devoted himself both in prosperity and in adversity; but upon the accession of Elizabeth, he was divested of all his employments, and committed, as before, a prisoner to the Tower, where he remained up to the time of his death, on the 1st of September, 1561, aged forty-four years. The reverse of policy and religion pursued by the two sisters, obtained for him accumulated favours from the one, and the heaviest penalties from the other. His remains were interred within Borley church, as were also those of his wife Frances, daughter of sir Edward Neville, knt. of Aldington Park, in Kent, third son of George baron Abergavenny, 1476, with their third daughter, Magdalene, married to sir John Southcote, knt. of Witham, in the county of Essex. His descendant, sir Henry, the heir apparent of sir Charles, by Helen, daughter of sir Francis Englefield, of Englefield, bart. was born in 1659, and, in 1685, was created, by James the second, baron Waldegrave of Chewton; in 1686, comptroller of the household; and, in 1687, lord lieutenant of Somerset. Being of the same religion, and marrying the natural daughter of that ill-fated monarch, by Arabella Churchill, sister of John, the celebrated duke of Marlborough, he became the zealous partizan of all the violent and arbitrary measures of his father-in-law's inauspicious reign, insomuch that, when the revolution of 1688

Trinity College, Oxford, is in possession of the great tithes, and makes the vicar lessee, who pays a small quit-rent to the college, and a fine certain of sixty pounds. The dean and chapter of St. Paul's induct the vicar whom Trinity College presents.

CHAP.
XI.

The remains of an ancient fortification are apparent on Navestock Common, and

Encamp-
ment.

took place, it became advisable to withdraw to Paris, where he died the year following, 1689. *Vide Ellis's Correspondence*, vol. i. p. 338. Navestock Hall was erected by his eldest son and successor, James, the first earl of Waldegrave; and, after being for many years the constant residence of his posterity, was pulled down by the present earl, and the materials sold by public auction, in the month of March, 1811.

A mural monument of considerable height, upon the north side of the chancel, has the following inscription, written by her late royal highness Maria, duchess of Gloucester, and countess dowager of Waldegrave: "Underneath this monument are the remains of the two first earls of Waldegrave, father and son, both of the name of James, both servants of that excellent prince king George the second, both by him created knights of the most noble order of the garter. James, the father, was employed in foreign embassies to the courts of Vienna and Versailles, by king George the first and by king George the second. He did the court and country honour and service, and was respected wherever his negotiations made him known. In his private capacity, the affability and benevolence of his disposition, and the goodness of his understanding, made him beloved and esteemed throughout his life. The antiquity of his illustrious and noble family is equal to that of most that may be named in any country or time, and needs not to be here recited. He died of the dropsy and jaundice, on the 11th of April, 1741, aged fifty-seven. His eldest son, James, before mentioned (and also interred within this vault,) died of the small-pox, on the 8th of April, 1763, aged forty-eight. These were his years in number, what they were in wisdom hardly belongs to time; the universal respect paid to him while he lived, and the universal lamentation at his death, are ample testimonies of a character not easily to be paralleled. He was for many years the chosen friend and favourite of a king, who was a judge of men, yet never that king's minister, though a man of business, knowledge, and learning, beyond most of his contemporaries. But ambition visited him not, and contentment filled his hours. Appealed to for his arbitration by various contending parties in the state, upon the highest differences, his judgment always tempered their dissensions, while his own principles, which were the freedom of the people, and the maintenance of the laws, remained steadfast and unshaken, and his influence unimpaired, though exercised through a long series of struggles that served as foils to his disinterested virtue. The constancy and firmness of his mind were proof against every trial but the distress of mankind, and therein he was as a rock with many springs, and his generosity was as the waters that flow from it, nourishing the plains beneath. He was wise in the first degree of wisdom, master of a powerful and delicate wit, had as ready conception and as quick parts as any man that ever lived, yet never lost his wisdom in his wit, nor his coolness by provocation; he smiled at things that drive other men to anger. He was a stranger to resentment, not to injuries; those feared him most that loved him, but he was revered by all; for he was as true a friend as ever bore that name, and as generous an enemy as ever bad man tried. He was in all things undisturbed, modest, placid, and humane; to him, broad day-light and the commerce of the world were as easy as the night and solitude; to him, the return of night and solitude must have ever been a season of the best reflection; to him, this now deep night must, through the merits of his Redeemer Jesus Christ, be everlasting peace and joy. O Death! thy sting is to the living! O grave! thy victory is over the unburied, the wife, the child, the friend that is left behind. Thus saith the widow of this incomparable man, his once most happy wife; now the faithful remembrancer of all his virtues, Maria, countess dowager Waldegrave, who inscribes this tablet to his beloved memory." The noble earl, whose character is delineated in the warm panegyrical language of the above epitaph, was governor of our late revered sovereign, George the third, when prince of Wales, and author

Inscrip-
tions.

BOOK II. near it there is an embankment of a considerable height, with a deep ditch on each side of it.

The number of inhabitants in this parish, in 1821, were eight hundred and forty, and, in 1831, eight hundred and fifty-two.

of "Historical Memoirs, from 1754 to 1757;" a work of very considerable interest and merit, and first published in 1821.

On the same side of the chancel, but nearer to the altar, is another mural tablet, on which is the following: "D. O. M. Hic requiescit illustrissima domina Henrietta Waldegrave, Henrici baronis de Waldegrave uxor dilecta, filia regis Jacobi secundi; et nobilissimæ dominæ Arbellæ Churchill; soror principis potentissimi ducis de Berwick; haud natalium splendore magis quam omnibus virtutibus, animi corporisque dotibus ornata. Obiit die 3tio April, Anno Domini 1730, ætat sixty-three. Felici memoriæ sacrum posuit Jacobus comes, vice comes, et baro de Waldegrave, filius charissimus." On the summit is an urn, and at the base the arms of Waldegrave, in a lozenge, impaled with the royal arms of king James the second.

Nearly opposite to the first of these is a beautiful monument, executed by Bacon, and erected in Sept. 1812. It represents a mother weeping over the canteen of her son, shipwrecked on the shore, with his name attached to it; at the top, a boy placed on a rock, and gradually unfurling the British standard, and underneath: "In memory of the honourable Edward Waldegrave, third son of George, fourth earl of Waldegrave, lieutenant of the seventh light dragoons; born August 28, 1787, died January 22, 1809. He greatly distinguished himself in the British army in Spain, in the campaign in which sir John Moore commanded and lost his life. He was selected by the general of his division, (lord Paget, the present marquis of Anglesea,) for a service demanding talent, intrepidity, and address, which he completely accomplished. This noble youth had scarcely begun to display those virtues and abilities which engaged the attachment of all his comrades in arms, when, being shipwrecked off Falmouth, in returning from Corunna, he was called, we humbly hope, to exchange earthly honour for a crown of immortality, through Jesus Christ our Lord."

On the other side of the southern window: "This monument is erected, by captain John Sheffield, in testimony of his great affection and gratitude, to the memory of Henry Sheffield, of London, merchant, his dutiful and affectionate son, who departed this life the 6th day of August, 1718, at Canton, in China, and lyes there interred, being chief supra-cargo of the ship Carnarvon, in the service of the honourable the East India Company, aged forty-one years, being grandson to John Sheffield, who lyes interred near this place."

"Near this place lyeth Mary, (mother of the above-named Henry Sheffield,) ætat. eighty-four. Obiit decimo sexto die Novembris, anno domini 1724."

On the northern side of the chancel is the cemetery of the Waldegrave family; and besides the noble members of it already recited, the following have been interred within its walls, but no tablet has hitherto been placed in this church to their memories: "John, the third earl of Waldegrave, general in the army, colonel of the Coldstream regiment of foot guards, governor of Plymouth, and lord lieutenant of Essex; buried October 20th, 1784. And Elizabeth, his wife, daughter of earl Gower, and sister of Granville, first marquis of Stafford, knight of the garter, May the 5th, in the same year. Also two of their daughters, ladies Amelia and Frances; both died in June, 1768. Lady Charlotte Waldegrave, second and posthumous daughter of George, the fourth earl, and lady Elizabeth Laura, his wife, eldest daughter of James, the second earl, knight of the garter, and her royal highness the duchess of Gloucester, here interred, on January 23, 1790. Maria, daughter of admiral the honourable William Waldegrave, (now lord Radstock,) buried December 4th, 1791. William Arthur, an infant son of John James, the sixth and present earl, on May 6th, 1821. Elizabeth, countess dowager of Cardigan, eldest daughter of John,

KELVEDON HATCH.

Kelvedon
Hatch.

This is the second parish of this name in Essex, distinguished from Kelvedon, in Witham hundred, by the term Hatch, applied to a rural gate of a peculiar construction. From Brentwood this parish is distant five, and from London nineteen miles.

Ailric, Algar, a freeman, and Leucua, had the lands of this parish before the Conquest; and after that event they were in the divided possession of St. Peter's, Westminster; Odo, bishop of Bayeux, whose under-tenant was the nephew of Herbert; and Hamo Dapifer, whose under-tenant was Ralph. Afterwards, these lands were divided into two manors. Ailric gave his part to St. Peter's, of Westminster; his grant was confirmed by Edward the confessor, and the abbot and monks retained possession till after the year 1532, and it is believed to have been all or the greater part of it included in the manor of Germaines, or Jermins, to which the rectory was appendant.

Germaines.

Kelvedon Hall is near the west end of the church, and the owners may be traced out by the presentations:* it now belongs to the rev. Edward Linsey.

In 1521, Richard Bolles, esq. died, holding this manor of the abbot of St. Peter's, Westminster: his son John died in 1532, who left Richard, his son and heir. It was holden of, Richard Hawe, by Henry Chadirton, by the rent of sixpence, in 1444,

the third earl of Waldegrave, and the widow of James, the fifth earl of Cardigan, buried July the 1st, 1823."

On a plate on the ground: "Richard Makyns, sworne ordinary groome in the chaundrie to king Edward the VIth, died April 5, 1603."

On the north wall: "Sacred to the memory of Elizabeth, the second wife of James, the fifth earl of Cardigan, daughter of John, the third earl of Waldegrave, lady of the bedchamber to her majesty queen Charlotte, who died June 23d, 1823, aged sixty-five years. Her nearest relatives, grateful for her kindness, have erected this monument as a testimony of their attachment and respect."—Arms of Bradenell: Upon a lozenge, argent, a chevron gules between three morions azure, impaling Waldegrave, per pale, argent and gules.

Near the east window of the south aisle: "To the memory of William lord Radstock, second son of John, the third earl of Waldegrave. He was created a baron of Ireland for his services at the defeat of the Spanish fleet, February 14, 1797, and died August 20, 1825, aged seventy-two years. His life was devoted to his God and to his country. Also, of his third son, hon. Augustus Waldegrave, who was accidentally killed near Mexico, October 26, 1825, aged twenty-two, whilst attached to the British mission there." Upon the summit is a medallion of the above-mentioned noble peer, and at the base a representation of the medal presented to the officers who served in lord St. Vincent's victory. Arms of Waldegrave: Per pale argent and gules. Crest: On a ducal coronet, or, a plume of five ostrich feathers, the first two argent, the third per pale argent and gules, and the last two gules. Supporters: Two talbots sable, ears gold, each gorged with a mural coronet argent. Motto: *Cælum, non animum*. "You may change your climate, but not your mind."

* In 1372, the advowson was in sir Roger de Kirketon and others. From 1383 to 1457, John de Hagh, Thomas de Hagh, Richard Haw, and John Haw, esquires, presented. Next followed the Bollis, Bolles, or Bowle family, from 1464 to 1511. John Wright, gent. presented in 1547, succeeded by his descendants of many generations.

BOOK II. whose son and heir was Henry Chadirton: succeeded, in 1524, by Henry Torrel, esq. of Navestock; whose son Humphrey, his successor, died in 1544, holding this parish. From whence it appears that the Wright family became possessed of the capital manor of this parish between the years 1524 and 1544.*

Miles. The part which belonged to Leueuia the Saxon, and to Hamo Dapifer, forms the manor of Miles, the mansion-house of which is about a mile northward from the church. This manor is not mentioned in records till the reign of Henry the seventh, when it belonged to Andrew Prior, who died in 1507, and was succeeded by his son John. John Prest was the next possessor, who died in 1546, leaving Frances, his only daughter; his widow, Alice, was married to Robert Blackwall, esq. and dying in 1561, left by him Frances Blackwall, her only child and heiress. Richard and Anthony Luther, esqs. were the next owners of this estate, who remained joint possessors of it nearly forty years; "so truly loving brothers," as is expressed in their epitaph, that no account whatever was kept between them. They died in 1627.† It is now in possession of — Fane, esq.

Bryces. An ancient house in this parish was named Bryces, from Thomas Bryce, citizen

* John Wright, esq. with Olive his wife, were buried in Kelvedon church, in 1551. John, his son, died in 1503. By his wife Joan, he had his heir John, who held this manor of Robert lord Rich: he had also the manor of White Notley, and, on his death in 1608, left John Wright, his son, his heir, who married Anne, one of the daughters of sir Edward Sulyard, of Flemyns, in Runwell; and had by her three sons and four daughters. He died in 1661; their eldest son was John Wright, esq. who married Frances, eldest daughter of sir Philip Waldegrave, esq. of Borley; he died in 1661, leaving John, Philip, and Frances. John Wright, the eldest son, married Philippa, daughter of William Fitz-Williams, esq. of Glixby, in Lincolnshire, and had by her five sons and four daughters. She died in 1687, and he in 1691. John Wright, esq. the eldest son and heir, married Eugenia, daughter of Charles Trinder, esq. and had by her his son and heir, John, who died in 1751, leaving, by his wife — Smith, or Carrington, John Wright, esq. Arms of Wright: Azure, two bars argent, in chief, a leopard's face, or.

Luther family. † The first time we find this family mentioned in Essex, is in the latter part of the reign of Henry the eighth, when William Luter (the name being so written at that time) had a lease from the crown for the manor of Albins, in Stapleford Abbots. John Luter, who died in 1566, held numerous estates, as did also his son, John Luter, who died in 1611: Richard, his brother and heir, is the first recorded possessor of Albins, who dying in 1639, was succeeded by his son and heir, Anthony, who married, first, Jane, eldest daughter of Gilbert Armstrong, esq. who died in 1640; secondly, he married Bridget, daughter of John Sadler, esq. of Wiltshire, and she died in 1649; thirdly, he married Anne —, who died in 1680: by the two last he had no children, but had by the first five sons and five daughters. The father died in 1665, in the seventy-seventh year of his age. His eldest son and heir, Thomas Luther, had Richard, who, by Mary, daughter of Edward Meade, of Berden, had Richard, who married Rebecca, daughter of Edward Ridge, alderman of London. His son and heir, Edward Luther, esq. was sheriff of Essex in 1701, and married Sarah, daughter of Thomas Dautrey, esq. of Doddinghurst-place, by whom he had Richard Luther, esq. who, on the death of his uncle, William Dautrey, esq. without offspring, had a great accession of property. His wife was Charlotte, daughter of Hugh Chamberlain, M.D. by whom he had his son and heir, John Luther, esq. member of parliament for the county; upon whose marriage with miss Lavinia Bennet, his father gave him his family estate. Mr. Luther, the father, much improved and enlarged the house. Arms of Luther: Argent, two bars sable: in chief, three buckles sable.—*Morant.*

and mercer of London, by whom it was erected in 1498. He sold it, in 1515, to sir John Allen, alderman of London; from whom it was conveyed, in 1528, to John Catchmaid; from whom passing to Edward Northey, attorney-at-law, he, in 1548, conveyed it to Richard Pettus, of an ancient family in Norfolk; and his daughter or grand-daughter, Elizabeth, was married to sir Francis Jones, alderman of London, and in 1620, lord mayor. Mary Jones, his daughter, was married to Ralph Pettus, son of William, brother of sir John Pettus, bart. to whom she conveyed a fortune of six thousand pounds, accounted a great sum at that time. During the civil wars, Ralph being of the royal party, was sequestered for eight hundred pounds, and had to mortgage this estate, which he could never afterwards redeem. It became the property of the Glascock family; and now belongs to William Dalby, esq.

In 1356, John Pegbrigg had a park here, as appears from the forest rolls of that period.

The church is a good brick building, tiled, dedicated to St. Nicholas; it has a nave, chancel, and south aisle.* Church.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and thirty-six, and, in 1831, three hundred and sixty-one inhabitants.

STONDON.

The situation of this parish, on a stony or gravelly hill, is significantly expressed by its name; and the addition of Marci, is from the family of Mark or Marks, its ancient possessors. It is not mentioned in Domesday, being at that time included in some neighbouring parish. Distant from Ongar two, and from London twenty-four miles. Stondon, or Stondon Marc

The manor-house is a short distance from the church, northward. After the Marks, the most ancient owners of this estate, were the Spigurnels: it was holden of Stondon Hall.

* Under the arch of the south aisle of the chancel there is an epitaph in old French, for Richard de Welleby, in very ancient characters: and in the east window of the same aisle, was the name of Milo de Mounteney, in Saxon letters.—*Symonds's Collect.* vol. iii. fol. 103. There is also an inscription in Norman French, on sir Roger de Kirketon. Inscriptions.

There are also in this church numerous monuments and inscriptions on the Wright family, who during many generations possessed the capital manor, and were patrons of the church; among these are, John Wright, esq. who died Dec. 2, 1751, in the sixty-sixth year of his age: of Frances, eldest daughter of Philip Waldegrave, esq. and wife of — Wright, esq. She died May 21, 1656. John Wright, esq. died the 13th of the same year, aged forty-six. Anne, wife of John Wright, and daughter of sir Edward Sulliard, knt. died Nov. 28, 1617.

On a brass plate, with the arms: "Fratres in unum—Here lie Richard and Anthonie Luther, esqs. so truly loving brothers, that they lived near fortie yeares joynte howsekeepers together at Miles, without anie accompt betwixt them." Anthony Luther, esq. son and heir of Richard Luther, of Miles, died in 1666, aged sixty-seven: also, Jane his wife.

William and Elizabeth Purchas, of Dodds; he died Oct. 1731; she in Feb. 1727.

BOOK II. Ralph le Merk, by Edmund Spigurnel, who died in 1295, and was followed by his son John, who died in 1308, leaving Edmund, his son; on whose decease, in 1314, he left this estate to his son, John Spigurnel.* Joan, an heiress of this family, presented to the living in her own right, from 1369 to 1385, and being married to William Gobion, esq., to whom she conveyed the estate, John and William Gobion are found to have presented from 1391 to 1410. The next proprietor was sir John Hende, distinguished by his extensive possessions: he had two sons, both named John, to the younger of whom he gave, by will, this with other estates, in 1418. Sir John died in that year, and his widow was re-married to sir Ralph Boteler, afterwards lord Sudeley, who, in her right, presented to this living in 1433, during her son John's minority; and the son coming of age, presented from 1445 to 1461. He died in 1464, leaving no offspring; and his elder brother, who had died in 1461, left Joan, his only daughter, who became heir to the whole estate; previous to the decease of her grandmother, in 1462, she was married to Walter Writell, esq. of Bobbingworth, who died in 1475, leaving William, who died young; and John, who, on his death in 1485, left John, his only son, an infant, who, before he arrived at maturity, was married to Etheldreda, the daughter of his guardian, sir John Shaa, and died under age, in 1507, leaving Julian, his only daughter, who died soon after her father. Afterwards the estate became the property of the Belknap family: and, in 1538, William Shelley presented to the living, and is therefore presumed to have had this estate. In 1604, it was granted, by king James the first, to John Carill; and a branch of the Rich family† afterwards had this possession; which a succession of its representatives retained till Nathaniel Rich, who married Mary, daughter of Matthew Rudd, of Little Badow, in 1806, having for many years been receiver-general of the land-tax of the county, sold this estate, in conformity with an act of parliament "for enabling the lord high treasurer to compound with him;" on which occasion it was purchased by Richard How, esq. who married Grace, daughter of Edward Linsell, esq. and had by her, Richard, who died without offspring; and John, sheriff for the county in 1730:

* Arms of Spigurnel: Quarterly, gules and or; in the second and third quarters a fesse of the first.—*Morant*.

Rich family.

† They were descended from Richard Rich, sheriff of London in 1441, who had two sons, John, and Thomas, grandfather of Richard, lord Rich. John Rich, the eldest son, died before his father, in 1458; he left John, his son and heir, citizen and mercer of London, whose son Thomas, by Margaret his wife, daughter and a co-heiress of sir Edward Shaa, had Richard Rich, of South Weald. He married Rachael, daughter of Thomas Newborough, esq. of Berkeley, in Gloucestershire, and left Edward, of Horndon, and sir Robert, a master in chancery. Edward Rich, esq. the eldest son and heir, died in 1599, leaving, by Joan, daughter and heiress of Edward Sanders, esq., Robert Rich, esq. of Stondon, who married Elizabeth, daughter of sir Thomas Dutton, knight, and had by her Nathaniel, his son and heir, called colonel Rich. He married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of sir Edmund Hamden, of Buckinghamshire, knt.; secondly, Anne, daughter of Charles, earl of Ancram: by the last he had no offspring, but by the first he had Nathaniel and Robert.

who, on his decease in 1748, by will, left this estate to William Taylor, esq., of Great Hadham. CHAP. XI.

The capital mansion of Stondon Place, formerly the seat of William Taylor How, esq. is half a mile distant from the church south-eastward; it is now the very pleasant residence of captain Kesterman. Stondon Place.

Lands named Plumtons in Domesday, were held by Ralph Peverell, Gilbert Bacun, and Sabina his wife, in 1286, of Dionysia de Montchensy, as of her barony of Anesty, by the name of Plimpton Hope. Plimpton Hope.

Two farms in this parish belong to Christ's and Emmanuel College, Cambridge.

The Baron's Oak is a farm bordering on the liberty of Havering.

St. Peter and St. Paul are the patron saints of this church; it has three bells, and a wooden spire. Church.

The rectory formerly received tithes of Mark's manor, in Margaret Roding, where there was a chapel named "Capellæ de Roothing Marci," originally (as is believed) belonging to the family of Marks.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and thirty, and, in 1831, to two hundred and ninety.

* On the south side of the chancel, a very ancient tomb bears the following, in old English characters. Inscriptions.

" Who lists to se and knowe him selfe	Whose body here, as death hath changed
May loke upon this glasc,	Lies covered with this stone :
And vew the beaten pathe of dethe	When dust to dust is brought again,
Which he shall one day passe ;	The erth she hath her owne,
Which way I Rainford Kellingworth	This shall the lot of all men be
With patient mind have gone,	Before the trumpe be blowne.

" April 17, 1575."

On the opposite northern side of the chancel, an old tombstone bears several brass plates, with portraits, and the following inscription :

" 1570.

' John Sarre, citizen of London,	Of earnest zeal among the rest,
An ironmonger free ;	In life he had regarde
Also a merchant venturer,	To this parishe, his native soyle,
In grave here lieth he.	And gave a large reward
Here in Stondon was he borne,	To it and other mo
Whose soule God toke to rest,	That neare about it be,
Fieft of Julie, in the year	And eke in London where he dwelt,
Of Christ above exprest.	Full lyberall gifts gave he."

Mrs. Alice Thompson left an annuity of forty shillings, to purchase waistcoats for eight poor widows.— Charities.
Mr. Giles, or Stiles, citizen of London, gave lands in this parish, (at the time, valued at £3 : 10s. per annum,) for the use of the poor.—A house and land formerly rented at £2 : 10s. was given for a fund to buy bell-ropes.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN ONGAR HUNDRED.

R. Rectory.		V. Vicarage.		C. V. Clear Value.		Pec. Peculiar.	
C. Curacy.							
Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.		Patron.	
Bobbingworth, R. . .	Essex	Thomas Smith	1812	£13	6	8	Thomas Smith, esq. Preb. of St. Pancras, in St. Paul's Cathedral.
Chigwell, V.	— Chawell . . . . .	....	18	0	3	
Fifield, R.	Robert Gibson	1810	25	7	6	The King.
Greensted, R.	Andrew Hatt, D.D. . .	1825	6	13	4	Bishop of London.
Kelvedon Hatch, R.	A. Serle	1798	12	0	0	A. Serle, esq.
Lambourne, R.	Robert Sutcliffe . . .	1815	14	0	0	Cor. Ch. Col. Camb.
Laver, High, R.	P. Budworth	1809	14	1	8	Trus. R. Budworth.
Laver, Little, R.	Henry Palmer	1824	15	10	5	Robert Palmer, esq.
Laver Magdalen, R.	J. W. Burford, D.D. .	1794	16	2	1	{ Rev. J. W. Burford, D.D.
Loughton, R.	Anthony Hamilton . .	1805	18	3	9	W. M. Whittaker, esq.
Moreton, R.	H. Pepys	1822	20	0	0	St. John's Col. Camb.
Navestock, V.	Pecul.	James Ford	1831	13	3	9	Trin. Col. Oxon.
North Weald Bas. V. .	Essex	Herry Cockerell. . .	1827	13	6	8	Bishop of London.
Norton Mandeville, C.	J. Chamberlayne . . .	1816	C.V. 6	0	0	Capel Cure, esq.
Ongar, Cheping, R.	— Fisher	1832	‡ 6	0	0	R. H. A. Bennet, esq.
Ongar, High, R.	H. J. Earle	1823	39	10	5	Ex. of the Rev. E. Earle
Roding Abbess, R.	Thomas Dyer	1828	14	10	0	Rev. Thomas Dyer.
Roding Beauchamp, R.	J. T. Barrett, D.D. .	1822	16	13	4	Rev. J. T. Barrett, D.D.
Shelley, R.	Henry Soames	1812	9	15	0	J. Tomlinson, esq.
Stanford Rivers, R.	E. C. Dowdeswell, D.D.	1802	26	13	4	Ch. of the D. of Lanc.
Stapleford Abbots, R.	James Hamilton . . .	1829	16	15	0	Lord Chancellor.
Stapleford Tany, R.	Richard Smijth	1801	15	8	2	Sir J. Smijth, bart.
Stondon, R.	John Oldham . . . . .	....	13	6	8	Rev. J. Oldham.
Theydon Bois, P. C.	Thomas Layton	1803	C.V. 30	0	0	R. W. H. Dare, esq.
Theydon Gernon, R.	C. B. Abdy	1812	17	0	0	J. R. Abdy, esq.
Theydon Mount, R.	R. Stapleford Tany . .	1801	13	6	8	W. Stapleford Tany R

CHAPTER XII.

HAVERING LIBERTY.

Havering.

THIS district, anciently forming part of the demesnes of the Saxon kings, from its northern extremity, where it meets the hundred of Ongar, extends to the river Thames on the south; and is separated from Chafford on the east by a rivulet, whose source is in Navestock and South Weald, pursuing its course by Raynham to the Thames at Wennington. It is in length from north to south nine, and from east to west four miles and a half, in its greatest width; but, at the Thames, not more than

three quarters of a mile. It anciently formed a part of Becontree hundred, as appears from the survey of Domesday; but there being a royal palace here, this district was erected into a liberty, independent of that hundred, and of the civil and ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the county, having in itself a tribunal for life and death; the origin of this arrangement has been generally supposed to have been from the kings of England having had a hunting house here, which was frequently the place of their residence; and having ordered that officers should take cognizance of crimes within the verge of their court, and that offenders should receive sentence under their more immediate inspection: probably at that time this was an usual privilege belonging to royal palaces.

The name of this liberty is supposed from the Saxon Hæfeping, the Goat's Ing. But the more general belief is, that its origin has been from a ring given to Edward the confessor by a pilgrim, according to an ancient romantic legend, the substance of which is, "that St. John the Evangelist, disguised as an old beggar, asking alms of king Edward, received from him a ring, as the only possession he had at that time to bestow; and which, some years afterwards, was returned to him by two English pilgrims, with an intimation that he should die within six months; and this message and ring were delivered to him here at his Bower, which, on that account, was named Have-Ring.*"

This liberty, on the death of king Edward, became the royal possession of his

* This occurrence is in the legend stated to have taken place at the consecration of the church of Clavering, in this county, which was dedicated to Christ and St. John the Evangelist, when king Edward the confessor riding that way, alighted, out of devotion, to be present at the ceremony. During the procession, a fair old man came to the king and begged alms of him, in the name of God and St. John the Evangelist. The king having nothing else to give, as his almoner was not at hand, took the ring from his finger, and gave it to the poor man. Some years after, two English pilgrims having lost their way as they were travelling to the Holy Land, saw a company clothed in white, with two lights carried before them; and behind them a fair ancient man. The pilgrims joining them, the old man inquired who they were, and whence they came. After hearing their story, he brought them to a fine city, and into a room furnished with all kinds of dainties; with which having well refreshed themselves, and rested there all night, the old man set them again in the right way: and at parting told them he was John the Evangelist; adding, as the legend goes on, "Say ye untoe Edwarde your king, that I grete hym well by the token that he gaaf to me this ryng with hys own handes, at the hallowyng of my chirche; which ryng ye shall deliver hym agayn, and say ye to him, that he dyspose his goodes, for wythin six monethes he shall be in the joye of heven wyth me, where he shall have his rewarde for his chastite and for his good lyvinge." At their return home, the two pilgrims waited upon the king, who was then at his Bower, and delivered to him their message, and the ring. The whole story is represented in sculptured figures, on the screen which separates the chapel from the altar in Westminster Abbey, where the Confessor lies buried. The statues of the king and the pilgrims are also over the courts of the King's Bench and Common Pleas in Westminster Hall; and over the gate going into Dean's Yard. His picture was also on the glass of the east window of the south aisle of Romford chapel, with two pilgrims, and under it, "Johannes per peregrinos misit regi Edwardo." There is a good picture of this king on the glass of the window of the chancel of that chapel, which was renewed in 1707. The ring, said to have been given to St. John, was

BOOK II.

successor, Harold, and of king William after the conquest; under whom some parcels of it were holden by Robert, son of Corbutio, Hugh de Montfort, and John, son of Waleram: these had in Saxon times been holden by five freemen and one sochman; and to this portion of the liberty there belonged twenty acres in Lochetund, or Loughton. Afterwards Havering was divided into numerous manors.

Havering
Bower.

Havering Bower was a favourite retreat of some of our Saxon kings, particularly of that saintly monarch, Edward the confessor, who found this woody and solitary place perfectly congenial to his retired habits and devotional spirit. The legend says, it abounded so with warbling nightingales, that they disturbing him in his prayers, he earnestly petitioned their absence; and the credulous have been led to believe the report that they have never since been heard to sing within the park, though abundantly numerous in the neighbourhood. Shady walks and a beautiful grove of trees have given the name of Bower to this place; and some remains are yet to be seen of the ancient palace said to have been built or improved by the Confessor, and afterwards inhabited by several kings. It is delightfully situated, with a fine extensive prospect over a great part of Essex, Hertfordshire, Kent, Middlesex, and Surrey; also a view of the Thames, on which the ships are seen in constant motion, with the cathedral of St. Paul's perceptible in the distance. The park contained one thousand acres.

Besides this palace, there was another at Pirgo, which belonged to the queens of England, where they frequently resided, particularly during their widowhood, it being usually part of the queen's jointure. It was enjoyed by Eleanor, queen of Edward the first, and from the record it appears that there was a park here, as well as at the Bower. Anne, queen of Richard the second, held it in dower. In the year 1166, William Hurel held lands in Havering by the serjeancy of keeping the park, as did also John de Ruyme, in 1210. But in general the keeping of the park went along with the forestership of Essex, as appears from the records in the Tower. Richard Montfitchet held both, through nearly the whole of the reign of Henry the third: of him, Thomas de Clare, second son of Richard, earl of Gloucester, purchased it; from whom it afterwards passed to the De Veres, earls of Oxford. But Thomas de Clare was deprived of it for a trespass, or misdemeanor, of one of his park-keepers; when the custody of it was given to Henry Fitzaucher, who held it, in 1223, in the

deposited among the relics of his abbey at Westminster, and there was granted to this sacred relic an indulgence for six years, and three hundred and sixty days.

In one of the windows of the ancient church of Ludlow, in Shropshire, there are splendid remains of stained glass, portraying this story of the ring presented to the Confessor, who, it is stated, "was warned of his deth, &c. by certain pilgrimes comming from Hierusalem, &c. These pilgrims being men of Ludlow." The authorities quoted are—*Ailred Rievalliensis*, col. 397, 398. *Legenda Aurea*, printed by William Caxton, fol. 308. *Dart's Hist. of Westminster Abbey*, vol. i. p. 51. *Weever*, p. 647. *Camden's Remains*, p. 483. *Wright's Hist. of Ludlow*, 1826, p. 148.

reign of Henry the third. In 1307, Gilbert, son and heir of Thomas de Clare, petitioned the parliament that he might obtain the custody of the said manor and park; but he was unsuccessful, for it was not in the possession of the Clare family till a considerable time afterwards. In 1317 it was granted, by Edward the second, to William Gerard; by Edward the third, to Henry Aumency, in 1330; and, in 1376, to Ralph Tyle, to whom it was confirmed by Richard the second; after whose decease, in 1396, it was given to John Loweke, or Lowise. It passed afterwards to numerous successive possessors: to Thomas Skargil in 1437, in the time of Henry the sixth, who also gave him, the following year, the office of riding forester in Waltham forest, jointly with William Bolton. The king also at the same time granted the office of keeping the south gate of the park to John Kemp, for life: the same was, in 1452, granted to Ralph Boyse for life, with the custody of the park and house of Havering, by patent and authority of parliament. In 1475, Edward the fourth granted, to sir Thomas Montgomery, the custody and stewardship of the whole forest of Essex, without emoluments thereto belonging, who retained them till 1484, when they were given to Robert Brakenbury, by Richard the third; the same king having previously given the custody of Havering park to his secretary, John Kendal. The Vere family, who claimed from Thomas de Clare, were attainted, and two of them beheaded, for their adherence to the house of Lancaster, and were deprived of this inheritance; but John de Vere, earl of Oxford, was restored, by act of parliament, to his honours and estates, and to the office of grand forester of Essex, in 1485. King Charles the second leased out a part of Havering park to the duke of Grafton, whose duchess, after his decease, marrying sir Thomas Hanmer, he sold the lease to Richard Holdich, a South-sea director; and on the failure of the company in 1721, this part of their possessions was sold to Richard Ladbroke, esq. brother of sir Robert Ladbroke, alderman of London: it extended into the parish of Stapleford Abbots. The other part of the park was leased out by the said king to Robert Bertie, earl of Lindsey, and descending to his son, created duke of Ancaster, was enjoyed by his widow, the duchess. The manor afterwards belonged to sir John Smith Burges, bart. and to his widow, the lady Poulet.

The manor-house of Havering Bower is on the north-west end of the ward, and not far from the chapel; the principal front is opposite to Sevenoaks, in Kent, which is distinctly seen at the distance of forty miles. Gentlemen's houses are here thickly strewn in every direction; the fields generally rich grass lands, covered with a verdure refreshing to the eye.

Havering Grange is now in the possession of James Anderson, esq. and the park belongs to James Ellis, esq.

The ancient royal chapel of Havering is near the site of the palace; it is dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. The living, a perpetual curacy in the peculiar jurisdic- Chapel.

BOOK II.

diction of the court for the liberty, is endowed with four hundred pounds private benefaction, and six hundred pounds royal bounty.*

In 1821, the population of Havering Bower amounted to three hundred and fifty-two, and, in 1831, to three hundred and thirty-two.

Pirgo.

The Saxon name of the manor of Pirgo is supposed to have been Pynige hou; written in records Pirgore and Purgore. The house was built at an early period, yet not so early as that of the Bower: it was in being in 1226, and in the custody of Phillippe Forrester, but nothing is known of it previous to that time. It seems to have been originally the house for the queen consort, and her jointure. Joan, widow of king Henry the fourth, died here in 1437.† In 1559, it was granted, by queen Elizabeth, to sir John Grey, with the grange or house of husbandry, called Piggs, and the park of Pirgoe, with its rights and appertenances; and it remained in possession of his descendants, till Henry Grey, baron of Groby,‡ previous to his decease in 1614, sold it to sir John Cheke, knt. grandson of the learned sir John Cheke,§

* The whole of the family of Cheke, and all of the Archer family, buried in Pirgo chapel, were removed and buried here, by order of lord Archer, in his will. There are also some monumental inscriptions, among which are, one to the memory of John Baynes, esq. serjeant-at-law, who died 26th Feb. 1736, aged sixty: and of Matthew Kenrick, of Harold's Park, who died March 21, in the year 1712, aged fifty-eight. He left five pounds to the poor.

A free-school was erected on Havering Green, with an endowment by dame Anne Tipping, daughter and heiress of colonel Thomas Cheke, of Pirgo, governor of the Tower of London in the reign of Charles the second. But the house has become ruinous, and the trust has not been renewed.

† Stowe's Annals, p. 376.

Grey family.

‡ Sir John Grey was the second son of Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorset, and grandson of sir John Grey and Elizabeth Widvil, afterwards queen of king Edward the fourth; and his eldest brother, Henry Grey, duke of Suffolk, was father of the lady Jane Grey, proclaimed queen of England: sir John Grey died in 1564, possessed of this estate, with the whole of the park, and several parcels of the demesnes belonging to the capital messuage: he lies buried in the chapel of Pirgo, with his wife Mary, daughter of Anthony Brown, viscount Montacute. Their offspring were Thomas, John, Edward, Henry, Frances, Elizabeth, Anne, and Margaret. Henry Grey, esq. the youngest son, was created baron Grey of Groby in 1603, and by the lady Anne, daughter of William lord Windsor, had John, Ambrose, and two daughters. See *Sir William Dugdale's Baronage*. Arms of Grey: Barry of six, argent and azure, three torteaux in chief: and a label of three points, ermine.

Cheke family.

§ The family of Cheke was originally of Motston, in the Isle of Wight: Richard Cheke, of that place, in the time of king Richard the second, married one of the daughters of lord Montacute; his successors were, Edward, John, a second John, and Robert: which last, by his wife — Branchet, had David, Peter, William, and Thomas. David's posterity long flourished at Motston: Peter was settled at Cambridge, and by Agnes his wife, daughter of — Dufford, or De Ufford, had John, Anne married to George Allington; Alice, the wife of — Blithe, M.D.; Elizabeth, married to — Sperling; Mary, who became the wife of the celebrated William Cecil, lord Burleigh; and Magdalen, married to Laurence Eresby; and afterwards to John Purefoy. John Cheke, the son, one of the most learned men of the age in which he lived, was Greek professor at Cambridge, knight of the garter, and preceptor to king Edward the sixth in 1551; chamberlain of the exchequer, secretary of state, &c. and died in 1557. His wife was Mary, daughter and heiress of Richard Hill, serjeant of the king's wine-cellar, by whom he had Henry, John, and Edward: the two last died without issue. Henry Cheke, esq. married Frances, daughter of sir Humphrey Radcliffe, of Elvestow, in Bedfordshire, sister of Edward Radcliffe, baron Fitzwalter, and earl

whose descendants held this possession till on the decease of Edward Cheke, esq. in 1707, without surviving offspring, his sister Anne, relict of sir Thomas Tipping, bart. of Wheatfield, in Oxfordshire, became his heiress; who, on her decease in 1728, leaving two daughters, this estate, on a partition, became the portion of the youngest daughter, Katharine, married to Thomas Archer, esq. of Umberslade, in the county of Warwick; who, in 1747, was created baron Archer of Umberslade. His lady, Katharine, died at Pirgo in 1754. Sir Simon Archer, knt. was distinguished for his singular accomplishments, and for his extensive acquaintance with British history and antiquities. The small chapel here was originally designed for the foresters, officers, and neighbours.* The original mansion was pulled down in 1770, and a new building erected. The present owner of this estate is Michael Field, esq.

The manor of Dagenhams lies south-east from Pirgo, bordering on South Weald: the name is supposed from an owner who wrote himself De Dagenham, and there being a parish in this neighbourhood named Dagenham, the possessive termination added here seems to confirm this supposition. Henry Percy, earl of Northumberland, who died in 1454, held the manors of Dagenhams and Cockerels, and was succeeded by his son and heir Henry; and sir William Husee, who died in 1495, held the manor of Potter's Fee, Dagenhams, and Cockerels, of Elizabeth, queen of Henry the seventh, as of her manor of Havering; John was his son and heir. In 1517, Peter Christmas held these possessions of Katharine, queen of England; and on his decease in that year, his heir and successor was William Turk. Thomas Legatt, of the Legatts of

Dagen-
hams.

of Sussex, who died without issue in 1613; whereupon sir Thomas Cheke, knt. son of the said Frances, his mother, had a claim to the barony of Fitzwalter, and was the purchaser of this estate. He married, first, a daughter of Peter Osborn, esq. but by her had no issue: his second wife was Essex, daughter of Robert, earl of Warwick, by whom he had Robert, Thomas, Charles, Francis: Frances, wife of sir Lancelot Lake, knt.; Essex married, first, to sir Robert Bevill, knight of the bath; afterwards to Edward, earl of Manchester; Anne, whose first marriage was to Richard Rogers, esq. and who afterwards was the wife of Robert, earl of Warwick; Isabel, married to sir Francis Gerard, bart.; and Elizabeth, married to sir Richard Franklin, bart. Sir Thomas Cheke, the father, died in 1569. Robert, the eldest son, preferred his claim to the barony of Fitzwalter in 1660, against Henry Mildmay, esq.; but dying without issue, was succeeded in this estate by his next brother, colonel Thomas Cheke, lieutenant of the Tower in the reigns of Charles the second and James the second, and died in 1688. He married lady Dorothy Sidney, daughter of Philip, earl of Leicester, by whom he had no issue; but afterwards marrying Lætitia, daughter and ultimately heiress of Edward Russell, second son of Francis, earl of Bedford, and sister to Edward, earl of Orford, he had by her Edward, Essex, and Anne: Edward Cheke, esq. the son and heir, married Anne, daughter of sir William Ellys, of Nocton, in Lincolnshire, bart. and had by her several children, who all dying young, the estate, on his death in 1707, descended to his surviving sister Anne, relict of sir Thomas Tipping—*Dugdale's Antiquit. of Warwickshire*, p. 781. *Collins's Peerage*, vol. v. p. 496. Arms of Cheke: Argent, three crescents gules.

* Sir John Grey, with his lady Mary, daughter of Anthony Browne, viscount Montacute, are buried here. And on the floor: "Sire Water de Bounstede Chanoyñ."

"Of your charite pray for the soule of Anne Lovekyn, sumetime wyfe of George Lovekyn, clark of the stables to our sovereign lorde kyng Henry the eighth; which Anne deceased xiii day of June, 1513."

BOOK II. Stapleford Tany, was the next owner of these two manors, and also of several other possessions in the neighbourhood: he died in 1555, leaving his son Thomas his heir. The next recorded possessor was John Wright, whose family was of Kelvedon Hatch; his descendant, sir Henry Wright, died unmarried in 1681,* leaving his sister Anne, a rich heiress, married, first, to Edmund, son and heir of sir Robert Pye, of Berkshire, by whom she had several sons and five daughters: she gave this estate to Edward Carteret, esq. uncle to Earl Granville, and one of the post-masters-general, who had married the lady Bridget Sudbury, widow, first, of sir John Sudbury; then of Thomas Clutterbuck, esq. who died in 1739, having had, by this lady, several children, none of whom survived him except Bridget, maid of honour to queen Caroline, and Anne Isabella, wife of admiral Cavendish. These co-heiresses, in 1743, sold this estate to Henry Muilman, esq.

Sir Henry Wright built a house here, and he, or some of his descendants, inclosed a park: Mr. Carteret improved the house, and erected a chapel.

This beautiful seat was purchased, in 1772, by sir Richard Neave, bart. who pulled down the ancient house, and erected the present elegant mansion, on a new site: it now belongs to his son, sir Thomas Neave, bart.†

* John Wright, of Kelvedon Hatch, had three sons: Robert, from whom descended the Wrights of Brook-street; John, the ancestor of the Wrights of South Weald; and a second John, of Wright's-bridge, near Hornchurch, but within the parish of South Weald, and of Gray's Inn, who died in 1644. By his wife Mary, daughter of John Mole, and Elizabeth, sister of sir Thomas Cheke, he had Laurence Wright, M.D. who died in 1657, leaving his son and heir Henry, created a baronet in 1660; who died in 1663; he married Anne, daughter of John lord Crew, of Stene, by whom he had sir Henry Wright.

Neave
family.

† This family is undoubtedly of Norman original; its founder is understood to have come over with William the conqueror; and his descendants settled themselves at Tivetshall, in Norfolk: they had also other considerable possessions in that county, and in Suffolk; and the manor formerly named Le Neve's, in Norfolk, was one of their estates. The parish of Nevendon, in Essex, has been supposed to have been named from a possessor of this family, but this presumption is not supported by evidence. The manor of Merks, in White Roding, in Essex, was purchased by John le Neve, who held his first court there the 8th of June, 1688, and it was sold by his son John in 1717. Sometime previous to 1267, Stephen le Neve, son of Gilbert de Estwell, gave lands to the prior of Norwich, and his son, Adam le Neve, was living in the reign of Edward the first, and Jordan in that of Edward the second; from whose son, Jeffery le Neve, descended Robert le Neve, resident at Tivetshall, in Norfolk, in 1400; who was father of John le Neve, living in 1420; whose son, Robert le Neve, of Tivetshall, died in 1486; he was the father of Jeffery, ancestor of sir William le Neve, knt. whose eldest brother's son, Robert le Neve, or Neave, esq. of Ringland, in Norfolk, lived till the last year of the reign of queen Mary, from whom he obtained a grant of the rectory of East Tuddenham; he married Alice, daughter of Thomas de Lamere, esq. of Ringland, by whom he had John, of North Tuddenham; Thomas, Richard, whose sons were Thomas, B.D. rector of North Tuddenham and Swanston Morley; Nathaniel, firmian of Ringsland, from whom descended Peter and Oliver le Neve, esqs.; Francis, and John, who died without issue. Robert the father's will was dated 1558; his successor was his second son, Thomas le Neve, or Neave, settled in Suffolk, who had four sons, among whom were Thomas, and John Neave, his successor, who had also four sons; Edward, Roger, Richard, and Jeffery. His successor was his eldest son, Edward Neave, who married and had John, Richard, and Edward; and also Anne. By his will, proved in 1617, it appears that he gave all his

The manor called Cockerels joins south-westward to the park of Dagenhams, and is now only a farm: it belonged to John de Wand, who died in 1251. William Senefeld, son of Emma, his eldest sister, and Julian, wife of Robert Cockerel, another sister of the said John, were his next heirs. In 1454 it passed, with Dagenhams, to the earl of Northumberland; from whom it was conveyed to Husee and Legatt, and the Wrights; and passing, as Dagenhams did, to the daughters of Edward Carteret, esq. it was sold to Henry Muilman, esq.

C H A P.
XII.
Cockerels

The mansion of Gooshays is on the right of the road from Brentwood to Romford, and the lands join to Dagenhams and Cockerels: this estate was holden by John de Dover, in 1334, of Philippa, queen of England; his successor was his son, Philip de Dover, who died the following year, leaving his son Richard his heir. In 1445, John Chaderton was possessed of this manor, succeeded by Alured Cornburgh in 1486, on whose decease his heirs were Agnes Chambers, one of his sisters, and John Craf-ford, son of his other sister Alice. In 1555, the estate was in the possession of

Gooshays

ready money to his eldest son John, with his lands; and to his other sons all his remaining personals, to be equally divided between them. John Neave, the eldest son, married Martha, daughter of ——— Beaumont, by whom he had his successor, Richard Neave, esq. of London, born in 1666, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Samuel Bradford, of the family of Dr. Samuel Bradford, bishop of Rochester, by whom, who died before him, he had James and Edward. James Neave, esq. of London, born in 1700, married Susannah, daughter of Thomas Truman, esq. receiver-general for the county of Nottingham, by whom, who died in 1763, he had Richard, James, who married H. Harvey, and died in 1796, leaving only female issue; and Susannah, who was married to W. Wells, esq. of Bickley-place, in Kent, and had issue. The eldest son, Richard Neave, of London and Dagenham Park, in Essex, esq. fellow of the Royal Society of Antiquarians, occupied the highly honourable offices of governor of the Bank of England; auditor of the public accounts, to which he was appointed in 1780; was chairman of the West India merchants, the London Dock company, and the Ramsgate Harbour trust: he was also a director of the Hudson's Bay company; and, as expressive of the high esteem in which his valuable and zealous services were held by his contemporaries, he obtained his title in 1795, as justly his due. Sir Richard, in 1761, married Frances, fourth surviving daughter of John Bristow, esq. by whom he had Thomas Neave, esq. of Hampstead, born in 1761, who, in 1791, married Frances Caroline, daughter of the very rev. William Digby, LL.D. and dean of Durham, son of Edward lord Digby, and brother of Henry, earl Digby, by whom he has had Frances, Caroline, Richard Digby, Henry, Lyttelton, Sheffield, Charlotte Maria, and William Augustus. 2. John Neave, esq. born in 1763, who has successively occupied the honourable situations of judge of Tirhoot, in Bengal, and chief at Benares, in the province of Oude: in 1790, he married Katharine, daughter of colonel Smith, by whom he had three sons, all of whom were named John, and died infants, in the East Indies; and Robert, born in England; he had also Anna Frances, Caroline Mary, Eliza, and Katharine, of whom the latter died young in the East Indies. 3. Richard Neave, esq. of Lincoln's-inn, barrister-at-law, who, in 1807, married the only daughter of the late George Peters, esq.: and 4. Henry Frazer, who died young. The daughters were, Frances Louisa, wife of Beeston Long, esq. of London; Katharine Mary, wife of Henry Howard, esq. of Corby-castle, in Cumberland. Caroline, who died young; Harriet, wife of the rev. George Trevelyan (third son of sir John Trevelyan, bart. of Nettle-combe, in Somersetshire); and Caroline Hannah, living unmarried in 1804. Sir Richard was succeeded by his son, sir Thomas Neave, F. R. and A. S. Richard Digby, his son, is married, and has issue.

BOOK II. Thomas Legatt; and Thomas Moreton, at the time of his death in 1591, held this and other estates of the queen: George was his son and heir. Afterwards it passed successively to Richard Humble, alderman of London,* in 1616; Richard Ward, in 1659: Edward lord Dudley and Ward, who built the house here, since demolished; and who sold the estate to — Mead, whose son, sir Nathaniel Mead, knt. serjeant-at-law, was his successor. Afterwards it became the possession of William Sheldon, esq.

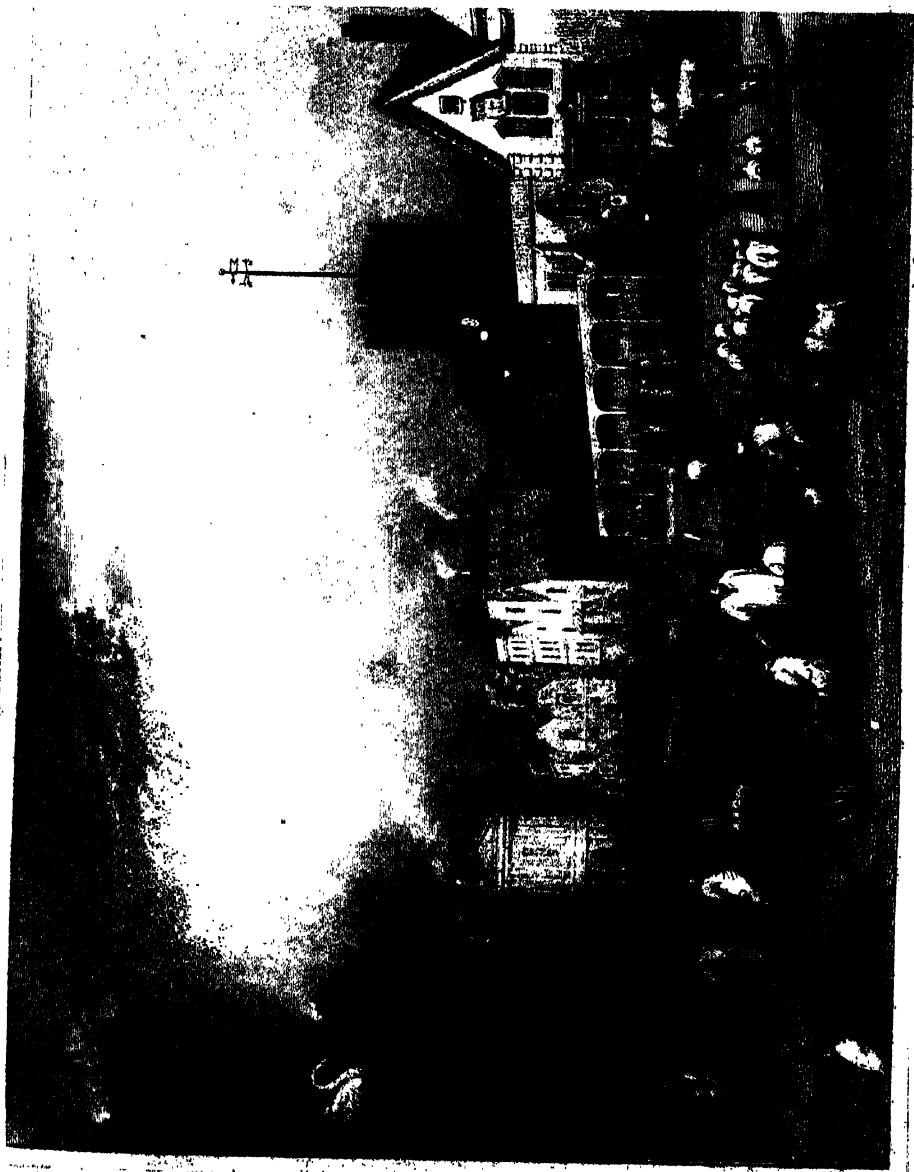
Up Ha-
vering, or
Gobions.

The name of Up-Havering occurs as early as 1202, when William Up-Havering was living, and is believed to have derived his surname from this place; the other name of Gobions was probably from an owner, being a name of frequent occurrence in this and other counties. In 1479, Thomas Urswick held this estate of Elizabeth, queen of Edward the fourth; and Katharine, wife of Henry Langley; Anne, wife of John Doreward; Elizabeth, Jeane, and Mary Urswick were his daughters and co-heiresses. Sir William Roche,† at the time of his death in 1549, held this and other manors of the king, and was succeeded by his son, John Roche; followed by Thomas Legatt and by sir Richard Minslfew, in 1636. Colonel Matthews‡ was the next possessor of this estate, whose son, Philip Matthews, esq. of Great Gobions, in Collier-row-ward, was created a baronet in 1662. He married Anne, daughter of sir Thomas Wolstonholme, bart. of Forty-hill, in Enfield, by whom he had a son and two daughters: he died in 1685, and his lady in 1735, aged eighty-nine, having remained a widow fifty years. Their son, sir John Matthews, bart. being a colonel in the foot-guards, was slain at the battle of Oudenard, and left no issue. Of the two daughters, Dorothy died unmarried; and Elizabeth was the wife of Thomas Dawson, D.D. fellow of St. John's College, in Cambridge, by whom he had Anne, Diana, Elizabeth, and Margaret. The estate was sold, by sir Philip Matthews, or

* He married, first, Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of John Pierson, of Nasing, by whom he had Peter; John, who died without issue; Elizabeth, wife of Richard Ward, citizen and goldsmith of London; and three others, who died without issue. By his second wife —, daughter of — Kichingman, no children are mentioned, and Peter, his son and heir, dying without issue, this estate came to the said Elizabeth, wife of Richard Ward. Sir Humble Ward, knt. was a wealthy goldsmith in London, and jeweller to Henrietta Maria, queen of king Charles the first, and for his kind assistance to that king in his troubles, was honoured with knighthood by him in 1643, and advanced to the dignity of baron, by the title of lord Ward of Birmingham, in 1644: he died in 1670, having had, by Frances his wife, niece and heiress of Edward lord Dudley, Edward and William, and three daughters.

† He was son of John Roche, of Wixley, in Yorkshire, and lord mayor of London in 1540: Julian, his wife, died in 1226: his son, sir John, married Elizabeth, daughter of sir William Forman, alderman.—*Stowe's Survey*, ed. 1720, b. 131, p. 5.

‡ Mr. Symonds, his contemporary, says of him, that being a forward lad, waiting for employment at court, he got to be under-clerk to John Thomas Mewtys, clerk of the privy council, and married the heiress of a citizen, worth four thousand pounds. He was an officer to the parliament, and died in the winter of 1658.—*Symonds's Collect.* p. 63.



some of the family, to Mr. William Curwen, and was purchased of him by sir Philip Hall, knt. and sheriff of this county in 1727. He died in 1746, and was succeeded by his son, Philip Hall, esq.

CHAP.
XII.

It is a subject of dispute whether the name Reden be from the Saxon Red, a reed, and den, a valley, or from an ancient family mentioned in an old deed, who were surnamed Reding. The house is nearly opposite to Gooshays, on the side of the road from Brentwood to Romford. In 1379, this estate was conveyed, by sir Richard de Havering, to sir John de Newenton, and Emma his wife; and Joan Swinderton, sister and heiress of Thomas Newenton, died in 1445, possessed of the manor of Redene, alias Reden-court. Sir Thomas Cooke, of Geddy Hall, had this estate at the time of his decease in 1478; and it descended to his posterity; to John Cooke, esq. in 1515; and to sir Anthony, who died in 1604. It was afterwards purchased by John Hopkins, esq. who, dying immensely rich in 1732, was succeeded by his nephew, John Hopkins, esq.

Redene,
or Reden-
court.

ROMFORD.

The town of Romford* is on the high road from London to Bury, Colchester, Ipswich, Harwich, Norwich, and Yarmouth, and, consequently, a great thoroughfare. It consists chiefly of one wide and long street, well paved, and lighted with gas; the houses are generally well built and convenient. The market, which was granted in 1247, by Henry the third, is held on Wednesdays, and abundantly supplied with agricultural productions and cattle; a market on Mondays is for hogs, and on Tuesdays for calves. There is an annual fair on Midsummer-day for horses and cattle; and a statute-fair, for hiring servants, on the market-days next before and after the 29th of September. The market-place and tolls have been recently purchased of the crown by Hugh Mackintosh, esq. This town, which with Hornchurch and Havering-atte-Bower, constitutes the liberty of Havering, was formerly considered one of the wards of Hornchurch; but by act of parliament for the regulation of the poor, in 1786, it is recognised, as far as relates to civil jurisdiction, as a separate parish, and comprises the wards of Collier Row, Harold's Wood, Noke Hill, and the town: as regards ecclesiastical affairs, it remains partly dependant on Hornchurch. The first charter was granted by Edward the confessor, which has received several confirmations and additions: the government is vested in the high steward, the deputy steward, and one justice, elected by the inhabitants of the liberty, and authorised to act with magisterial authority. They are a corporation, and have a patent authorising them, at their own

Romford.

* An ancient ford across a stream which flows through the west side of the town, is generally supposed to have been the origin of this name, which Mr. Lysons derives from the Saxon words rom, broad, and ford, ford; and Mr. Letheuillier supposes it a contraction from "Roman iord." Dr. Stukeley also expresses himself in favour of the opinion of its Roman origin, and on the authority of Richard of Cirencester calls it the Duroilitum of Antoninus.—*Lyson's Environs*, vol. iv. p. 183, 184.

BOOK II. quarter-sessions, which are holden on the Friday after the county sessions, to try for all manner of offences, high treason not excepted, upon payment of a trifling fee; but no commission of this kind has been applied for of late years: they also hear and determine, every three weeks, all actions for debt, trespasses, ejectments, and replevins, in a court of ancient demesne.

The tenants of the liberty, in which this parish is included, claim exemption from toll everywhere throughout the realm, both for goods and cattle sold, and provisions purchased; from payment toward the county expenses, and also a personal exemption from being impaneled on inquests and juries, except within their own liberty; with various other privileges. The county magistrates have no jurisdiction within this liberty. The court-house is in the market-place, and beneath it is a small gaol for the liberty.*

The dissenters of the independent denomination have a place of worship here, and an endowment of twenty pounds per annum, with a house for the minister.

Chapel. The chapel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and St. Edward the confessor, is a spacious building, with a nave, chancel, north aisle, and a tower at the west end. There is a whole-length painting of Edward the confessor on glass, in the east window of the chancel, which, according to the inscription, was "renewed in 1707."†

* The soil in this neighbourhood is of two general descriptions: a strong, heavy soil on clay, which requires careful draining; and a drier loam and gravel, with blue pebbles, which is suitable for turnips.

Inscriptions. † On the north side of the aisle is the monument of sir Anthony Cooke, of Gidea Hall, with the effigies of himself and his lady, in kneeling attitudes, and various shields of arms, displaying the intermarriages and alliances of the family. There are several inscriptions in Latin on this monument, supposed to have been by his daughters, who were the most learned females of the age: and near it is a tablet, with a long and somewhat verbose epitaph, "On the death of the right worshipful sir Anthony Cooke, knt. who died 11th June, 1576."

There are also the following memorial inscriptions: On sir George Hervey, knt. lieutenant of the Tower of London, who died Aug. 10, and was buried 4th Sept. 1605; Roger, the third son of sir George Hervey, died a commander in the wars of Ireland, 19th Nov. 1605, aged thirty-four; lady Anne Carew, daughter of sir Nicholas Hervey, knt. married to George Carew, son of sir Edmond Carew, baron of Carew; this lady died 27th Aug. 1605, aged seventy-six. Also Richard, son and heir of sir Anthony Cooke, knt.; William Cooke, his second son, who married Frances, daughter of lord John Grey, brother to the duke of Suffolk; Mildred Cooke, wife of sir William Burghley, knight of the order of the garter; Anna, wife of sir Nicholas Bacon, knt. and keeper of the seals; Elizabeth Cooke, wife of John de Russel, son and heir of Francis, earl of Bedford; and Catharine Cooke, married to Henry Killigrew, esq.

The valuable and important charities belonging to this parish are too numerous for insertion.

Free-school. In 1728, a free-school was erected for children of both sexes, with an endowment amounting to above thirteen hundred pounds, and additional support from voluntary contributions; it contains sixty boys and thirty girls. In 1483, an alms-house was founded, by Roger Reed, for the support of five poor men, whose widows are allowed twenty pounds a year for life, with clothes and coals. The present value of the endowment is two hundred and eighty pounds per annum: the alms-house was rebuilt in 1784.

The work-house is a commodious building, erected in 1787, at an expense of four thousand pounds, under the provisions of an act of parliament, whereby the management of the poor is vested in thirty guardians, exclusive of the two churchwardens.

In the early ages, Hornchurch was the only place for public worship in the liberty to which the inhabitants resorted, and where they were buried: but in the reign of Edward the second, some time after the year 1323, a chapel was erected here, probably on account of the increase of the inhabitants, consequent on the conversion of a large portion of the forest to agricultural cultivation; and Romford had become so considerable in 1247, as to obtain the privilege of a market. The old chapel stood a quarter of a mile nearer to Hornchurch than the present erection; the place where it stood yet retains the name of Old Church; and when it was removed, the inhabitants are believed to have also come with it to this place, for the convenience of the road. This new chapel was twenty-eight feet longer, and fourteen feet broader, than the old one, and erected by composition between the College and the inhabitants, confirmed by the bishop of London. This instrument, recited by Mr. Newcourt, contains a licence from the College for the people of Romford to have a cemetery and sepulture, having previously (as they alleged in their petition to the pope) been obliged to carry their dead to Hornchurch, from which they were distant five miles. In this they were not authorised by the College or bishop, but by pope Alexander V., whose bull was obtained for that purpose in 1407. In the composition, the warden and fellows of New College reserved to themselves and successors for ever, all tithes real and personal, offerings, obventions, fruits and profits belonging to the mother church of Hornchurch: with the proviso, that if the inhabitants subtracted any part of the dues, they should be deprived of their right of sepulture here till they made amends: also the warden and fellows reserved to themselves the power of putting in and removing the chaplain.

Avery Cornberrow, esq. of the royal guards, in the time of Henry the sixth and Edward the fourth, founded a chantry here, for one priest to pray for his soul, and the souls of his friends, in their chapel: to preach twice yearly at South Okendon, Hornchurch, Dagenham, Barking, South Weald, and Romford; and to keep one obit of twenty shillings for the said souls. Another chantry was founded by several persons to find a priest called our Lady Priest, to say divine service in the chapel. In the certificate it is said, "The said towne ys a very great towne, conteyning twenty myles in compass, and having in yt by estimacion about the number of nine hundred of houseling people."

John Ongir, the younger, gave to this chapel, in case his daughter died without issue, an estate in this town, out of which five marks went to the brotherhood of Our Lady, to pray for him, his brothers and sisters; also twenty shillings to "pore pepyll, and to foule ways."*

* This estate had belonged to Robert Darcy, and to John Marshall, before it came to Ongir. John Thoroughgood left it, by will, to William Jermin, who, in 1716, sold it to Thomas Scawen, esq. by whom it was conveyed to Onesiphorus Liege.

BOOK II.

William Page, in 1422, left Parkfield for an obit: and George Downham, in 1478, founded an obit for three hundred years, and longer if the laws would.

In 1821, this parish contained three thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven, and, in 1831, four thousand two hundred and ninety-four inhabitants.

Manor of Romford

The name of Romford appears for the first time in the red book of the exchequer, where it is stated, that in 1166, Roger Bigod, earl of Norfolk, held the wood of Romford by serjeancy and payment of five shillings yearly. In 1277, Adam de Cretinge held lands in the parish of Romford, in Havering; and Henry de Winchester, who died in 1299, held under him the manor of Romford, by the service of one penny per annum, and the fourth part of a knight's fee: he married Maud, a jewess, himself a proselyte to that faith; but was, with his wife, afterwards converted to Christianity, and had a son named Thomas. Roger Bigod, earl of Norfolk, also held this estate under De Creting, in 1307. The next possessor was Thomas de Brotherton, the fifth son of king Edward the first: he was earl of Norfolk and lord marshal; sir Walter de Manny* married his daughter and heiress, widow of John lord Segrave, and at the time of his decease, in 1372, held this manor in her right. Their daughter and heiress was Anne, wife of John Hastings, earl of Pembroke.

After this time, the manor of Romford was distinguished by the name of Manny's, or De Manny's, corruptly Mawneys, or Mancies. Sir Walter's daughter Anne, countess of Pembroke, did not succeed to this inheritance, which went to Elizabeth, daughter of John lord Segrave, married to John de Mowbray; their son and heir was Thomas de Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, who died in 1400; he held under Adam Karlyl, and left sir Thomas Mowbray, his son and heir, who, in 1405, was beheaded for being of the party who in parliament opposed Henry the fourth's continued demands for money: his mother Elizabeth, re-married to sir Robert Goushill, and on his death to sir Gerard Ufflet, with them enjoyed this estate, and held it as her dower till her decease in 1424; and John Mowbray, the fourth duke of Norfolk of this family, dying without issue in 1477, this estate, among others, passed to the heirs of Isabel, one of the two daughters of Thomas Mowbray, the first earl of this family: and the heirs of Isabel in this was James lord Berkley, whose successor was his son William, marquis of Berkley and earl marshal, who died in 1491: his heir was his brother Maurice; but William is said to have alienated this estate, in 1487, to John bishop of Lincoln. George Dacre, esq. had this manor in 1555, from whom it was conveyed, in 1573, to John Leonard, or Lennard, esq. who held it in capite, by knights' service; and on his death in 1591, left Sampson Lennard, esq. his son and heir, from whom the estate was conveyed to Francis Eure, and others. It belonged to Francis Fuller, esq. in 1627, succeeded by Francis Osbaston, his cousin and next heir; and by marriage of an heiress of the Osbaston family, it was conveyed to John

* He was of the diocese of Cambray, one of king Edward the third's warriors, and founder of the charter-house.

Milner, esq. and to Richard Newman, esq. of West Ham. It is now in the possession of William Miles, esq.

CHAP.
XII.

East-house is in Collier-row-lane. The estate seems to have been taken out of the manor of Romford. The manor of East-house, in 1332, was in the possession of Roger William, of Havering, who was outlawed. The next recorded owner was sir Thomas Cooke, the owner also of Gidea Hall, in the time of Edward the fourth. These two manors were originally united, and East-house belonged to Carew Hervey Mildmay, esq. of Marks.

East-house.

Bedfords is first mentioned in 1748, as belonging to sir Thomas Cooke,* and was held of the manor of Havering by fealty and rent: it belonged, in 1659, to Mrs. Matthews, as did also Gobions. It was purchased by J. Heaton, esq. sometime previous to the year 1772.

Bedfords.

At the time of the survey, this manor belonged to the abbey of St. Peter, at Westminster, and it is not known how or when they were dispossessed of it. In the reign of Edward the fourth, it belonged to sir Thomas Cooke, son of Robert Cooke, of Lavenham, in Suffolk. He was of the drapers' company: in 1453, sheriff of London, and, in 1462, lord mayor; in 1465, was one of the forty-two knights of the bath, made by king Edward the fourth, on the coronation of his queen. He commenced the building of a house or castle† here, which was not finished till the time of his great grandson Anthony;‡ for living in those troublesome and dangerous times of the contentions of the houses of York and Lancaster, he was a great sufferer, and impoverished by fines and confiscations. It is stated in the records, that a person named Hawkins, having requested of him the loan of a sum of money, he refused, on being informed that it was for the use of Margaret, queen of Henry the sixth. Hawkins being committed to the Tower in 1467, and put to the rack, mentioned this circumstance in his confession, on which sir Thomas was committed to the Tower, and, by the malice of sir John Fogge, indicted for high treason, and, in consequence, his house was plundered, all the furniture taken away, and his deer, rabbits, fish, &c. &c. destroyed, for which he could get no recompence. By the persevering integrity of chief justice sir John Markham, he was acquitted of treason, yet was

Gidea, or
Gidea
Hall.

* He held by the sergeancy of giving one red rose to the queen, on the twenty-fourth of June.

† Carta Edw. IV. Licenta Tho. Cook, mil. pro parco et castello faciend.

‡ On the stone front of the building was inscribed, under the window, Εὖν Θεῶν, on the left-hand side Aeth Jehovah, and some other Hebrew words, with a sentence in Hebrew; under which was the year 1568: and, beneath the Greek sentence, the following distich: "Ædibus his frontem proavus Thomas dedit olim; addidit Antoni cæteræ sera manus." Also: "Sedes quisque suas, domini sed mœnia pauci ædificant; levior cura minora decet." Underneath the following, with a repetition of the year, as above, which renders it probable they were added on sir Anthony's entertaining the queen here at that time: "Quod mihi dura, tuo ductu, fortuna recessit. Te, regina, domus, rura, nemusque canent."—From a Letter by Mr. Stripe.

BOOK II.

committed, first to the Compter, and afterwards to the King's Bench prison; from which he could not be released without paying eight thousand pounds to the king, and eight hundred pounds to the queen. The chief justice was also displaced. Sir Thomas died in 1478, holding Bedfords, Gidea Hall, and Reden Court of the queen, with various estates elsewhere: his descendants retained this estate for several generations, till Edward, son of Anthony Cooke, esq. died, leaving two daughters, Anne and Vere, co-heiresses;* the latter was married to sir Charles Gawdy, of Crowshall, in Suffolk; and Anne, who was married to sir Edward Sydenham, had this estate for her purparty. They had five sons and five daughters, of whom Anne, the eldest, was married to sir Thomas Wiseman, of Rivenhall, knt. Charles Sydenham, esq. the eldest son and heir, had, besides other children, Mary, and Margaret, whose husband, Thomas Velley, esq. of High Ongar, sold Gidea Hall to Mr. Richard Elmes, who possessed this estate in 1659, which seems to have belonged to John Bird, esq. who was sheriff of Essex in 1668, and lived at Gidea Hall. John Hathersale was the next owner, who sold it to sir John Eyles, bart.† from whom it passed to his descendants,

Cooke
family.

* Sir Thomas Cooke married the daughter and heiress of Philip Malpas, of London, by whom he had Philip, William of Chigwell, and Thomas. Philip Cooke, esq. born in 1454, married Elizabeth, daughter of sir Henry, and sister and co-heiress of Edward Belknap, by whom he had John, and Beatrix, wife of William Copley. John, the son and heir, was of Gidea Hall, and died in 1515, leaving by his wife, daughter and co-heiress of William Sanders, of Sandbury, in Surrey, Anthony, and Katharine, wife of Richard Ogle. Sir Anthony, his son and heir, born in 1504, was a man of great learning, and preceptor to king Edward the sixth. He passed the time of queen Mary's persecuting reign in exile in Germany; returned to England on the accession of Elizabeth, and finished the building of Gidea Hall, which was begun by his great grandfather: he died in 1576, aged seventy, and is buried under a stately monument in Romford church. He married Anne, daughter of sir William Fitzwilliam, of Milton, in Northamptonshire, and Gains Park, in Theydon Gernon, and had by her Richard, William, Edward; Margaret, married to sir — Rowlet; Mildred, second wife of the celebrated statesman sir William Cecil, lord Burleigh; Anne, married to sir Nicholas Bacon, lord keeper; Elizabeth, wife of sir Thomas Hobbey, and afterwards of John lord Russell, son and heir of Francis, earl of Bedford; and Katharine, wife of sir Henry Killegrew, mother of Henry Nevill. William, the second son, married Frances, daughter of sir John Grey, brother of the duke of Suffolk. Richard Cooke, esq. the eldest son, succeeded his father, and died three years after him, in 1579; he married Anne, daughter of John Caulton, and left by her his son and heir, Anthony; and Philippa, wife of Hercules Mewtas, of West Ham. Sir Anthony Cooke, knt. married Hawise, daughter of sir William Waldegrave, knt. by whom he had Edward, and Francis: he died in 1604, and was succeeded by his eldest son, sir Edward, who married Martha, daughter of sir William Daniel, knt. justice of the Common Pleas, by whom he left two daughters, his co-heiresses. Arms of Cooke: Argent, a chevron componé, argent and azure, between three cinquefoils, azure. Crest: A horse's head, or.

Eyles
family.

† John Eyles, esq. of the ancient family of this name in Wiltshire, was lord mayor of London in 1688, and received the honour of knighthood from king James the second: he had three daughters, of whom Sarah was married to Joseph Haskin Styles, esq. of London. Francis Eyles, esq. was brother to sir John: he was many years a director of the East-India company, alderman of Bridge-ward, and created a baronet in 1714. He died in 1716. His wife Elizabeth, daughter of Mr. Ayley, of London, survived him till 1735; by her he had six sons and four daughters. Joseph, the fourth son, was honoured with knighthood by

with whom it continued till sir Francis Haskyn Styles, nephew of Benjamin Haskyn Styles, esq. sold it, in 1745, to Richard Benyon,* esq. formerly governor of Fort St. George. It now belongs to Alexander Black, esq.

CHAP.
XII.

In the reign of queen Elizabeth, in the year 1561, Marcellinus Halys, esq. died holding the manor of Stewards, and was succeeded by his son, George Halys. The next possessors of this estate were the family of Quarles, of Ufford, in Northamptonshire, descended from George Quarles, one of the auditors in the reigns of Henry the seventh and Henry the eighth: his son, Francis Quarles, esq. of Ufford, by his first wife Cecilia, daughter of — Crunkhorn, of the same county, had five sons and one daughter; and by Bridget, his second wife, daughter of — Brampton, of Suffolk, had seven sons and three daughters. James Quarles, esq. the third son by the second wife, and the first of the family that settled here, was clerk of the green cloth, and purveyor of the navy, in the time of queen Elizabeth. He died in 1599, possessed of this and many other estates. By Joanna, his wife, daughter and heiress of Edward Dalton, of Moor Place, near Hadham, in Hertfordshire, he had Robert, James, Francis, Arthur, and three daughters. Francis, the third son, was a poet of some celebrity in his time, and author of numerous works.† The eldest son, sir Robert Quarles, knt. married, first, Hester, daughter of Edward Lewkenor, of Higham Hall, in Suffolk: his second wife was — Brewster, widow of sir Thomas Sackford; and thirdly, he married Mary, daughter of — Parrys, of London, which last surviving her husband, paid quit-rent for the estate in 1659. This estate has since been divided into several farms.

Stewards.

The ancient seat of Marks is supposed to have been named from a former owner. The records are silent respecting this estate till 1479, when Thomas Urswick, esq. the owner also of Gobjons, died in possession of it; his five daughters were his co-heiresses. The next recorded owner was sir George Hervey, lieutenant of the Tower of London, descended from a branch of the ancient family of Hervey, of

Marks.

king George the first; and sir John Eyles, bart. eldest son of sir Francis, was the purchaser of this estate; he was alderman of London, and, in 1727, lord mayor; sub-governor of the South-sea company, member of parliament, and joint post-master-general. He married Mary, daughter of Joseph Haskyn Styles, esq. by Sarah, daughter of his uncle sir John Eyles, knt. and had by her Francis, his only son, who being made his uncle's heir, took the surname of Haskyn Styles. Sir John had also one daughter. Arms of Eyles: Argent, a fesse engrailed sable: on a chief three fleur-de-luces of the second.

* Arms of Benyon: Vaire, on a chief, argent, three mullets gules, pierced of the second.

† He was born at Stewards in 1592, and educated at Christ's College, Cambridge; afterwards he was of Lincoln's-inn; was made cup-bearer to Elizabeth, queen of Bohemia; and secretary to the learned archbishop Usher; and dying in 1644, was buried in St. Vedast church, Foster-lane, London. Besides his "Emblems," which have gone through numerous editions, he wrote "The History of Jonah;" "Hadassa, or the History of Esther, with Meditations Divine and Moral;" "Job Militant;" "Argalus and Parthenia;" "Barnabas and Boanerges, or Wine and Oil for afflicted souls," and many other works. John, his son, born in Essex in 1624, was also a poet, and author of nearly as many works as his father.

BOOK II. Ickworth, earls of Suffolk. Sir Nicholas Hervey, second son of William Hervey, of that place, was of the privy chamber to king Henry the eighth. He married two wives, of whom the second was Bridget, daughter and sole heiress of sir John Wiltshire, and having been lady of the bed-chamber to queen Anne Boleyn, and relict of sir Richard Wingfield, knight of the garter, and chancellor of the dutchy of Lancaster: besides other daughters, he had by her Anne, married to George Carew, third son of sir Edmund Carew, baron of Carew. Sir George Hervey, knt. the fourth son, was lieutenant of the Tower of London, in which office he died in 1605. Of his numerous sons and daughters, by his wife Frances, daughter and co-heiress of sir Leonard Beckwith, Margaret, the first of them, was married to William Mildmay, eldest son of sir Thomas Mildmay, of Springfield Barns, and had by him Thomas, Carew, Henry, and Frances. Sir Gawin Hervey, the fifth and only surviving son of sir George, succeeded his father, and having no issue, adopted for his heir his sister Margaret's second son, Carew Mildmay, esq. who, on sir Gawin's decease, in 1627, came and resided at Marks. By his wife, — Gerard, he had Francis, who married a daughter of Robert Honeywood, esq. of Kent, and had by her his son and heir, Carew; and Judith, married to John Searl, D.D. rector of Willingale Dou; and to Arthur Heron, rector of Moreton. Carew Hervey, or Mildmay, esq. was sheriff of Essex in 1713, and having married Anne, daughter of Richard Lennard Barrett, esq. he had by her Carew and Francis. He died in 1743, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Carew, who married —, daughter of — Estwood, of Sherborn, in Dorsetshire.

This manor of Marks, extending to the border of Becontree hundred, is above a mile west from Romford.

Elmes,
vulgarly
Nelmes.

The manor of Elmes lies south-east from Romford, on the border of the hundred of Chafford. It was in the possession of sir William Roche, at the time of his decease in 1549, but there is no record informs us when he came to this possession, nor can it be discovered when or to whom it was disposed of by his son and heir John. Robert Harvey, who died in 1608, held the site of the mansion or capital messuage of Elmes, and left also a son named John, his successor; and, in 1627, Robert Nauntou, esq. was lord of this manor, which soon after seems to have had several parcels of the lands taken from it, and purchased by different persons; and what remained of it became the property of sir Thomas Webster, bart. of Copped Hall, and of Battle Abbey, in Sussex; and of his younger son, Godfrey Webster, esq. who married Elizabeth, daughter of Gilbert Cooper, esq. of Lockear, in Derbyshire. The old house is yet standing, and there is an elegant modern mansion, with a park, the seat of Richard Newman, esq.

Lees
Gardens.

This manorial estate is about two miles east from Romford. Marcellinus Halys, esq., the owner of Stewards, had also this possession, which descended to his son and

heir Thomas; and afterwards belonged to Thomas How, who died in 1604. It is said to have next become the property of lord St. John; and of — Fisher, who died in 1720: George Lewis, a painter, had a moiety of it for life; the other moiety being in possession of John Hopkins, or Probyn, esq. counsellor-at-law, nephew of sir Edward Probyn, chief baron of the exchequer; who, in 1746, sold it to Mr. Dawson, of the ordnance office. The present possessor is Hilton Jenkins, esq.

Maylerds is near Hornchurch, about two miles distant from Romford southward: a manor named Wybridges has been joined to it. This estate appears to have formerly belonged to sir Anthony Browne, or his widow, and to John Browne; afterwards to Robert Charnock and William Fawkener. The manor of Wybridges was again separated, and in the possession of sir William Ayloff, knt. and bart., who died in 1627: and in 1659, Mr. Edward Thorowgood paid quit-rent for this estate. In 1659, James Rushout, esq. paid quit-rent for Maylerds; he was of Norcot, in Worcestershire, and created a baronet in 1661. Sir James married a sister of Thomas Vernon, esq. of Twickenham park, in Middlesex, and at his death, in 1698, left two children, James and Elizabeth, minors; and sir James dying unmarried, in 1711, his sister Elizabeth became his heiress: she was married to Paulet St. John, esq. of Dogmersfield, in Hampshire, member of parliament for Winchester; and, dying without issue, this estate was sold to John Bamber, M.D., on whose death this and his other estates descended to Bamber Gascoigne, esq.

Maylerds.

The manor of Bretons is two miles and a half from Romford, south of Maylerds, and bordering on Dagenham; the ancient family, surnamed Le Breton, or De Breton, had estates in this county, at Bocksted, in 1260 and 1310; and this manor, by the name Bretonneslond, was passed by re-lease from William Nortoft to William Buckingham in 1361; in the time of Edward the fourth to the family of Scargill,* or Scargwell, one of whom was appointed keeper of Havering park; and in the reign of Henry the seventh it was purchased by William Ayloff, esq.† and was retained by his posterity

Bretons.

* In the kitchen window of Bretons was the arms—Gules, a chevron, or, between three crescents ermine. Above, “Scargwell,” and beneath, “Dnus. Manerij de Bretons:” and in the church there was an epitaph for Thomas Scargill, esq. who died in 1475.—*Simonds's Col.* vol. iii. fol. 223, and *Weever's Funeral Monum.*

† The ancient Saxon family of Ayloff was seated at Aloph, in Bocton, or Boughton parish, hundred of Eythorne, near the Wye, in Kent; of which town they were possessors in the time of Henry the third. The name of Aloph was given to this town from having anciently been under the jurisdiction of Adulphus, ancestor of Thomas Aloffe, a person of great celebrity, and portreeve of London in the reign of Edward the confessor: of this ancestry was John Ayloff, seated at Hornchurch, in Essex, who was succeeded by his son Thomas, who, dying in 1482, left by his wife Agnes, daughter of William Birch, esq. his son William, and Agnes his daughter, married to sir John Bruges, lord mayor of London in 1523; who had by him Anthony Bruges, from whom are descended the dukes of Chandos; and Winifred, married to sir Richard Sackville, of Buckhurst, ancestor of the dukes of Dorset. William succeeded his father in his estates; and purchased this manor of Brytensse, or Bretons, within the lordship of Havering-atte-Bower;

Ayloff family.

BOOK II. till the time of king Charles the first, when, in 1659, it was sold, with an estate named Daniels, to John Winniffe, esq. It afterwards belonged to John Austin, esq. alderman of London; succeeded by William Blackburn. esq., and by John Hopkins, esq. owner of Reden Court; who rebuilt the manor-house and came and resided here. The present possessor is Samuel Benton, esq.

Suttons.

Suttons is an estate joining to Bretons, and situated three miles south-east from Romford: it forms part of the estate belonging to New College, Oxford, which they had with the rest of the lands of Hornchurch Hospital. The name is supposed to denote its southern situation with respect to Hornchurch Hall,* which also formed part of the said estate, but is not mentioned as a separate manor till 1549. The college becoming possessed of this manor, with the rest of their estates in this parish, have enjoyed it to the present time; they let it out on lease.

Sutton Gate.

Sutton Gate is a seat which formerly belonged to the Prujean family; who had also large estates in Hornchurch. Sir Francis Prujean, knt. M.D. many years president

and the manor of Great Braxted, with divers lands there; by his wife Etheldreda, daughter of sir John Shaa, he left William, Thomas, and Agn's, or Elizabeth, wife of William Gaynsford, esq. of Crowhurst, in Surrey. Thomas, the second son, was of Little Chishall, and died in 1554, leaving only one son, William, father of William Ayloff, esq. serjeant-at-law, whose successor was his eldest brother, William Ayloff, esq. who left William, his eldest son, his successor: he was one of the judges of the king's bench in 1579, and died in 1585. His wife was Jane, daughter of sir Eustace Sulyard; and he was succeeded by his second son, sir Thomas Ayloff, knt. who, by his first wife, Mary Guicciardine, had Guicciardine Ayloff, secretary of the duchy of Lancaster, who died unmarried; and Camilla, married to Edward Wentworth, esq. of Bocking. William Ayloff, eldest son of the last-mentioned William, born in 1563, succeeded to the family estate, and with his brother Thomas received the honour of knighthood from king James the first, in 1603; and in 1612 was created a baronet, and died in 1627: of his numerous offspring, Jane was married to Edward Keightly, esq. of Greys, in Essex; and the second son, sir Benjamin, succeeded to the title and estate: he was distinguished for his loyalty to king Charles the first; for which he was, by order of the parliament, imprisoned in the Tower, his estate sequestered, and afterwards, with many others, sent to Yarmouth, to be transported to the plantations in the West Indies; but that order being repealed, he returned to Braxted, and compounded for his estate by paying one thousand two hundred and forty-two pounds; on which account he was obliged to sell the manor of Bretons; he had, however, the satisfaction of living to see the Restoration, and was member of parliament on the return of Charles the second: he died in 1662. His first wife was Margaret, daughter of Thomas Fanshaw, esq. and sister of sir Henry Fanshaw, father of Thomas viscount Fanshaw, of Ware-park, in the county of Hertford; by this lady he had a numerous offspring; of these, William, the eldest son, joined his father in the service of Charles the first, and was colonel of a regiment at the siege of Colchester. He died in 1675, without surviving issue; on which his next brother, sir Benjamin Ayloff, succeeded to the title and estate. He was an eminent merchant in London, and marrying Martha, daughter of sir John Tyrell, bart. of Heron Hall, had his son John, who died unmarried, and Margaret and Martha. On the death of sir Benjamin, in 1772, he was succeeded by his nephew, sir John Ayloff, rector of Stanford Rivers, only son of Henry, his third brother: sir John died unmarried in 1730, and was buried at Braxted. His successor was sir Joseph Ayloff, the only son of Joseph, son of sir William Ayloff, by the lady Alice, his third wife.—Arms of Ayloff: Sable, a lion rampant, or, between three crosses potence, or. Crest: a lion rampant.

* Southton.—Souton.—Sutton.

of the college of physicians, died in 1666, and is buried in this church with his two wives, Margaret, of the ancient family of Legatt, of Dagenhams; and — Gorges; also his only son, Thomas Prujean, M.D.* Charles Clarke, esq. is the present lessee of this estate.

The river that separates the hundred of Chafford from the liberty of Havering forms its southern boundary, as it does also of the manor of Dovers; which is about four miles from Romford, joining the marshes. This estate is also named Newenhall. In the reign of king Henry the third, Alice, wife of Richard de Dover, held this estate; as did also John de Dover, who died in 1298. John de Dover was his son; who was succeeded by his son, Philip de Dover, who died the following year: Richard was his son and heir, and he had also the manor of Gooshays. In 1454, Richard Walderne died holding this estate, which he left to his four daughters, co-heiresses; Elizabeth, Joanna, Alianor, and Margaret. Alured Cornburgh, who had possessions in Gooshays, had a third part of this estate in 1487; Agnes Chambers, his sister, and John Crafford, son of lady Alice, another of Alured's sisters, were his heirs. The manor was afterwards parcelled out; of which a third part was in the possession of John Redys, and Margaret his wife. The estate was again united in the possession of Thomas Collet, esq.; and Peter Collet, esq. at the time of his decease, in 1607, held this manor of Dovers, alias Newhall, by rent, twenty shillings in the sum-monce of the pipe, and yearly alms to the brotherhood of the Cornutines. Hester, wife of sir Anthony Aucher, and Sarah, wife of sir Peter Layman, were his daughters and heiresses. In 1627, Elizabeth Fountain was lady of this manor; and it some time afterwards belonged jointly to Robert Nash, LL.D. chancellor of Norwich, and to the rev. Thomas Dunford; and on the decease of Dr. Nash it wholly came to the rev. Thomas Dunford. The present possessor is Henry Lawrence, esq.

The account of the several manors ending with Dovers, completes the extensive district anciently forming only one parish, named Hornchurch, divided into the seven wards of Havering Atte Bower, North End, Noke Hill, Collier Row, Harold's Wood, Romford Town, and South End. Other places of note are Havering-park, Havering-plain, Wright's-bridge, Brick-hill, Mayland, Great Pondman's, Brakes, Marshalls, Hare-street, so named as a contraction of Harold's-street; North End and South End, in Hornchurch, Langton, and Hacton.†—The district, in modern times forming the parish of Hornchurch, extends from the great London road between Romford and Brentwood on the north, to the Thames on the south, containing six thousand five hundred acres of land. The village is distant from Romford two, and from London fourteen miles, and from the river Thames four miles and a half.‡

Horn-
church.

* Arms of Prujean: Gules, on a bend cotised three roses, argent. Crest: a griffin's head erased, sable.

† Hacton-house belonged to John Sherwood; afterwards to William Smith, secretary to the South-sea Company, and to serjeant Baynes.

‡ The main street of Hornchurch was named Pell-street, in the time of Henry the second, from the

BOOK II.

Hare Hall.

Hare Hall, near the hamlet of Hare-street, a mile distant from Romford, is an elegant mansion of Portland stone, erected for John Arnold Wallenger, esq. by Mr. Payne, in 1769, on the site of a former building: it consists of a centre, with two wings connected by colonnades; the interior is fitted up in a handsome manner; the larger of the two drawing rooms is thirty-six feet by twenty, and extends the whole length of the house, commanding pleasant views of considerable extent. Mr. Payne has attained celebrity in the construction of staircases, and here, as at Wardour castle, this part of the structure displays taste and elegance. Hare Hall is now the seat of J. Western, esq.

This agreeable neighbourhood, rich in cultivation, contains numerous genteel mansions, the residences of families of distinction; and here is the small but handsome cottage, erected by Humphrey Repton, esq., who attained celebrity as a landscape gardener, and published several esteemed works on that subject.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a lofty and spacious building of stone, with a tall spire rising to the height of one hundred and seventy feet, which forms a conspicuous object at a great distance.* The beautiful window in the east end was restored by the late incumbent, the rev. J. Walker, LL.B. in 1826. Against the east wall of this church there is a carved figure of a bullock's head, with gilded horns.†

This manor and church were given to the great hospital of St. Bernard de Monte numerous pelt-mongers, or skimmers; and Romford market was once famous for various articles made of leather at this place. Another street in Hornchurch was called Pollard-street. An iron foundry has been established here, and there is an extensive manufacture of bricks.

Inscriptions.

* In the high chancel there are epitaphs for each of the following persons: "John Thoroughgood, esq. who died 9 June, 1688." "Peerce Tenante, esq. servant to our late sovereign king Edward VI., and of queen Mary; and also gentleman-usher in ordinary the space of thirty-two years to our sovereign lady queen Elizabeth: he died Nov. 1560, aged 70." "Anne and Susannah, daughters of William Blackborne, esq." "Omphry Drywood, who died in 1595." "Thomas Drywood, who died in 1591." "Thomas Witheringes, esq. chief postmaster of Great Britain and foreign parts, who died in 1651." "Francis Ram, esq. and Helen his wife. He died in 1617, aged 80: she in 1615, aged 58." "Charles Pratt, esq. who died in 1623, aged 60." "The right hon. Thomas Clutterbuck, treasurer of the navy in the reign of George I. He died in Nov. 1742, aged 46."—In the south chancel: "Lady Margaret Prujean, descended from the Legatt family of Hornchurch." "Thomas Prujean, M.D. fellow of the college of physicians in London, son of lady Margaret." "Sir Francis Prujean, knt. M.D. fellow of the said college." "Sir John Sudbury, bart. of Ingatestone, who died 27 March, 1691, aged 31."—In the north chancel: "Richard Blackstone, otherwise Blason, gentleman, who died in 1638, aged 62."—In the south aisle: "Humphrey Ryc, citizen, and writer of the court letters, and attorney of the common pleas. He died 22 Oct. 1625, aged 52."—Against the south wall of the church is an inscription for "Mrs. Aylett, the principal benefactor to this parish: she died 11 Sept. 1731, aged 68."

Benefactions.

Benefactions.—Mrs. Alice Aylett, grand-daughter of captain John Aylett, who was at the siege of Colchester with his father, left ten pounds a year for the master of a charity-school, to teach ten boys to read, write, and cast accounts: the Bull, at Hornchurch, is charged with the money.

Annuities given to the poor.—By Mrs. Seale, twenty shillings.—Mr. Ballard, six pounds.—Mr. Armstrong, five pounds to the poor, and one pound to the minister.—Mr. King, two pounds.—Samuel Ballard, who died 12 June, 1691, left his marsh lands to the maintaining his tomb, and the remainder to the poor.

† This is supposed to have been the coat or crest belonging to the religious house in Savoy, to



Jovis,* in the diocese of Sedun, or Syon, in Savoy, by king Henry the seventh; who seems also to have founded the hospital, or cell here, subordinate to that foreign house, and dedicated it to St. Nicholas and St. Bernard; and the gift was confirmed to them by his son, king Richard the first; and Henry the third again confirmed to them their possessions, naming them “Magister et fratres de Monasterio Cornuto,”—“Master and brothers of the Horned Monastery;” and forbidding them to make any further acquisitions here without his special licence. Till the time of Henry the second, the church was called the church of Havering; and the name of Cornutum Monasterium, or Cornuta Ecclesia, does not occur, and must therefore have been first applied in that interval. Peter, earl of Savoy, having built the house, from him named the Savoy, in the Strand, in 1245, gave it to the brethren of this hospital; and it was purchased of them by Eleanor, niece of the said Peter, and wife of king Henry the third; and she gave it to her son Edmund, earl of Lancaster.

This possession, the manors of Hornchurch Hall, and Suttons, with view of frankpledge and gallows, in Havering, and a house in Fenchurch-street, London, seem to have constituted the whole of their possessions; the master and brothers were removeable at the will of the provost of the monastery in Savoy; and they had no college, or common seal, and could neither plead, nor be impleaded. The revenues of this cell being seized with the other priories alien, were, with leave of the pope, and Richard the second, purchased by William of Wickham, for the endowment of New College, in Oxford, which it has retained, with the tithes of the parish. They are also ordinaries of the place; and the vicar, as he is styled, holds the church of them, by lease, or life, without taking institution from the bishop of the diocese, and without paying procurations, synodals, first-fruits, or tenths.

The population of Hornchurch, in 1821, amounted to one thousand, nine hundred, and thirty-eight, and, in 1831, to two thousand, one hundred, and eighty-six.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN THE LIBERTY OF HAVERING.

Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Havering, B. C.	Essex.	Henry Ward.	1784	Not in Charge	* * * *
Hornchurch, V.	Pecul.	George Stacey. ....	....	Not in Charge	New Coll. Oxford.
Romford, C.	Essex.	J. E. Rathbone.	1828	Not in Charge	New Coll. Oxford.

which this was a cell. The arms of Altorf, in Switzerland, is a bull's head caboshed,—*N. Salmon*, p. 243.

* Stow says, “Then have ye on the south side of Fennechurch-street, over against the wall or pump, amongst other large and fair builded houses, one that sometime belonged to the prior of Monte Jovis, or Monasterio Cornute (a cell to Monte Jovis beyond the seas), in Essex; it was the prior's inn when he repaired to London.”—*Survey of London*, book ii. p. 79.

CHAPTER XIII.

HALF HUNDRED OF WALTHAM.

Waltham
Holy
Cross.

FROM the river Lea on the west, this half hundred extends to Ongar and part of Becontree eastward, about six miles; and from its southern extremity, to Harlow hundred on the north, ten miles. It anciently belonged to the abbey of Waltham, and passed with the site of that edifice to the families of Denney, Hay, Wake, and Jones: it contains four parishes; Waltham Holy Cross, Epping, Nasing, and Chingford, and is included in the forest.

WALTHAM HOLY CROSS.

This ancient town gives its name to the half-hundred, and also to that part of the forest of Essex in which it is included: it is large and irregularly built, in a low situation, near the river Lea, which here forms a number of small islands, bordered by fruitful meadows: these streams are traditionally said to flow in the channels originally made by king Alfred, when he altered the course of the river, and left the Danish fleet on shore; they are now partly occupied by government, for the use of the gunpowder mills and other works, which have been erected here; and which, in detached branches, extend for a distance of nearly four miles towards Epping. The surrounding country is peculiarly beautiful, with numerous elegant mansions. In the town there are also many good houses; and besides the church, there are two places for public worship belonging to societies of Baptists, and one for Wesleyan methodists. The market is on Tuesday, with fairs on the 14th of May, and on the 25th and 26th of September; there is also a statute fair. Distance from Epping five, and from London twelve miles.

The first occurrence of the name in records is in the time of Canute the Great, when it was in the possession of Tovy, or Tovius, standard-bearer to that monarch; he was a man of great wealth and authority, and, attracted by the game that abounded in the forest, built a number of houses here, and peopled them with sixty-six inhabitants: he also founded a church for two priests, to whose keeping he committed a miraculous cross, said to have been discovered in a vision to a carpenter at Montacute, in the western country, and in an unknown and mysterious manner brought to this place, where, through its pretended divine or holy influence, numerous miracles were

reported to have been performed. From this relic the place took the adjunct to its name of Holy Cross.* Athelston, the son of Tovius, after his father's decease, by a course of prodigality and extravagance, became dispossessed of the greater part of his inheritance; and this lordship being conveyed to the crown, was given by Edward the confessor to earl Harold. The gift, however, was made conditionally, as appears from the grant remaining in the Tower, in which it is ordered that Harold should build a monastery in the place where "was a little convent, subject to the canons, and their rulers;" "and should furnish it with all necessities, relics, dresses, and ornaments," "in memoriam mei, et conjugis mei Eadithe." The convent here mentioned was the original foundation of Tovius, which he had himself augmented by increasing both the number of priests and value of the endowments. These conditions were performed by Harold in 1062, and it is stated that each of the canons had one manor appropriated for his support, and that the dean had six, making in all seventeen. It appears from the charter of confirmation, granted by Edward the confessor, that Harold endowed his new foundation with the manors then called Passefeld, Welda, or Walde, Upminster, Wahlfara or Wallifare, Tippedene, Alwartune, Wudeforde, Lambehyth, Nasingam, Brikendune, Melnho, Abruchsey, Wormelei, Nethleswelle, or Neteswell, Hicche, Lukintone, and Westwaltham.†

Founda-
tion of
the abbey.

Although some have given credit to a tradition mentioned by Giraldus Cambrensis and other writers, that Harold escaped from the battle of Hastings, and lived some time after in religious seclusion at Chester, yet the generally received story is that he fell in the battle, and that his body was interred at Waltham, where, during a long period, a tomb was shewn as his sepulchral monument, which had, we are told, an effigy, with the inscription, "Hic jacet Harold infelix." Fuller has given a circumstantial account of the opening of this monument towards the end of the reign of Elizabeth, when a skeleton was found, supposed to be that of the Anglo-Saxon king, inclosed in a stone coffin.‡ It is said that William, after his accession, showed no favour to the convent at Waltham, but that he forcibly took away from the church of the Holy Cross much of its plate and other moveables of value.§ It appears also from the Domesday-book, that the canons of Waltham did not then hold all the lands which had been given to them by Harold, Melnho, or Melchou, and Alrichsey

* De miraculis Crucis de Monteacuto per fabrum inventi tempore Canuti et de ejus deductione ad Waltham.—*MS. in Bibl. Cott. Julius D.* vi. 2.

† Farmer's Hist. of Waltham, p. 13. Robert of Gloucester describes Harold's foundation of Waltham :

"So that yt was thoru hyre wyth gret honour ybore || In the holy rode chyrche, that he let hym sulf rere,
To the hous of Waltham, and ybrost anerthe there, || An hous of relygyon, of canons ywys."

‡ Fuller's Worthies, p. 320.—"The last account we have of it (Harold's monument) is, that it was at Waltham mill, and seen there by Dr. Uuedal, of Enfield."—*Morant.*

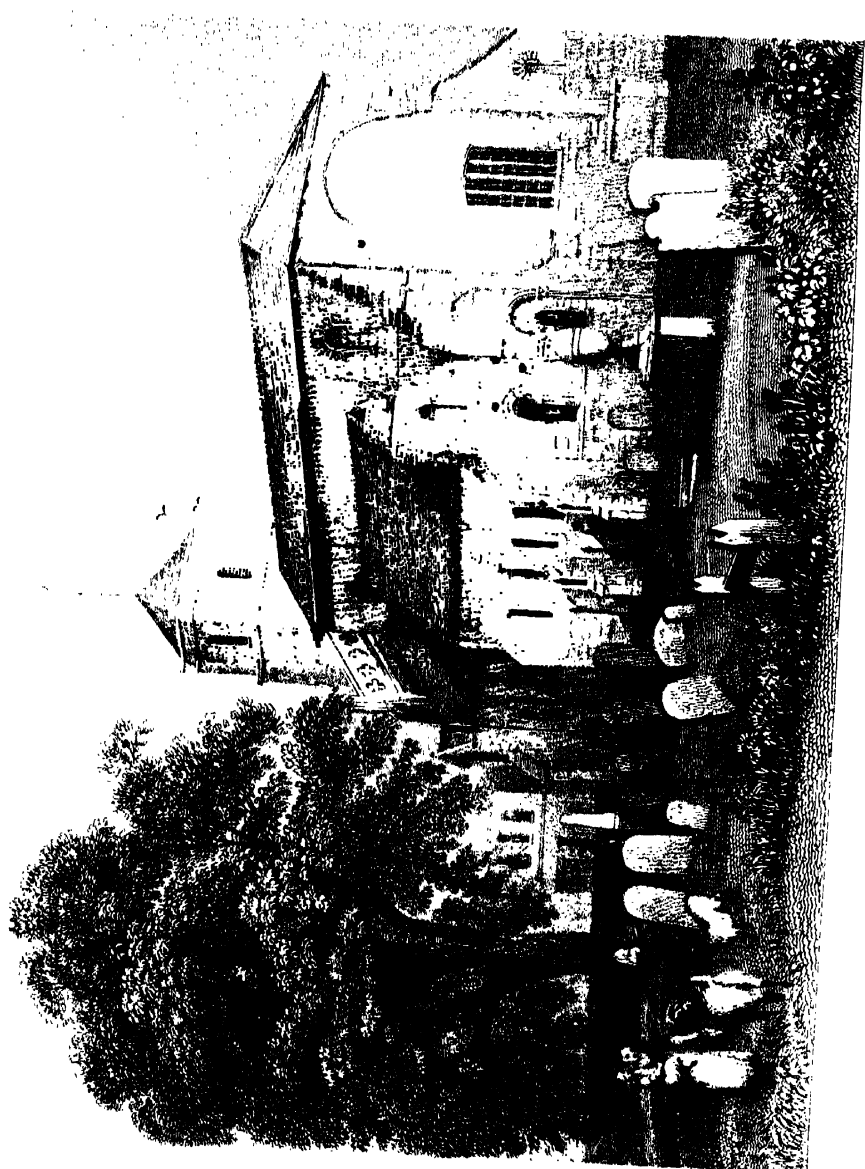
§ Vita et miracula Haroldi quondam regis Angliæ, ap. MSS. Harl.

then belonging to the bishop of Durham: but the canons may have sold these lands or exchanged them for others. Matilda, the first wife of Henry the first, gave to the clerks of Waltham the mill at that place; and Adelais, or Adeliza, of Lorraine, his second wife, bestowed on them all the tithes of Waltham, both those of her demesne lands and those of her tenants. Various other endowments were given to the house at Waltham at different times, until 1177, when the foundation of dean and eleven canons was dissolved by Henry the second, on account, as the charter of their successors states, of their lewdness and debauchery.* On the eve of Pentecost, the king visited Waltham, and Walter, bishop of Rochester (on the part of the archbishop of Canterbury), Gilbert, bishop of London, John, bishop of Norwich, and Hugh, bishop of Durham, assembled by precept from the king and mandate of the pope, when sixteen regular canons, of the order of St. Augustine, namely, six of Cirencester, six of Oseney, and four of Chich, were inducted into the church, and Walter de Gaunt, a canon of Oseney, was made the first abbot of the new foundation. The church was dedicated first to the Holy Cross, and afterwards to St. Lawrence, and was declared by the pope's bull exempt from all episcopal jurisdiction. In 1191, the use of the pontificals, the mitre, crozier, ring, &c. were granted to the abbot.† By his charter, the king confirmed to the Augustine canons all the possessions which had been held by their predecessors, and also granted them, in addition, the manors of Siwardston and Epping. Richard the first twice renewed the charter, and added to the former grants the whole manor of Waltham, with the great wood, and Harold's Park, and liberty to inclose it for the use of the canons. He also gave them all the wastes, three hundred acres of assart land, the market of Waltham, and the parish of Nesinges, with all its wastes, and a hundred and sixty acres of assarts there. In lieu of all services they were to pay yearly at Michaelmas, into his treasury, the sum of sixty pounds.‡ Other valuable grants were made during this reign. Henry the third often took up his residence at Waltham Abbey, and in gratitude for the hospitality of his entertainers, he granted them the right to hold a fair annually for seven days, with various privileges and rich gifts. From Matthew Paris we learn, that in

* Cum in ea canonici clerique minus religiose et æqualiter vixissent, ita quod infamia conversationis illorum scandalizasset, visum fuit—opus esse pietatis, illis amotis, quos infamiæ nota maculaverat, viros sanctæ conversationis substituere, et opinione laudabiles.

† The charter given by Henry the second thus defines the ancient liberties of Waltham church:—“Semper fuit regalis capella ex primitiva sui fundatione nulli archiepiscopo vel episcopo, sed tantum ecclesiæ Romanæ et regiæ dispositioni subjecta.” It is still exempt from the archdeacon's visitation.

‡ In the reign of Richard the second, the abbot of Waltham altered the course of the river Lea. The following licence was granted by the lord chancellor for that purpose. “Vice comiti Essex, salutem. Sciatis quod dedimus licentiam abbati de Waltham avertendi cursum aquæ de la Lui in Villa de Waltham sicut voluerit, sine dampno alicujus, et ad commodum navigii: et ideo tibi precipimus quod hoc ei facere permittas sine impedimento. Teste meipso apud Westmonasterium nono die Septembris.”



1242, the church of Waltham was again solemnly dedicated in the presence of the king and many of his nobles. This, it is supposed, was on occasion of some additional buildings being then annexed to the original fabric, of which our Lady's chapel, on the south side, now fitted up as a school-room, may have formed a part.

During this reign, when Simon de Seham was abbot, in 1245, a dispute arose between the townsmen and the abbot of Waltham about the common land. The men of Waltham came into the marsh, which the abbot and his convent had hitherto enjoyed, and killed four mares, worth forty shillings sterling at least, and drove away all the rest. The abbot thought it politic to let this pass over without notice on his part for the present; and the next year the same men of Waltham went to the abbot, on the Tuesday before Easter, in the name of the whole town, and demanded of him that he should remove his mares and colts out of the marsh. This the abbot refused to do, adding, that if his bailiffs had placed his cattle otherwise than they ought, they might do well to have it amended, and yet so as to defer the matter till the Tuesday after Easter, on which day Richard, duke of Cornwall, brother to the king, came to Waltham, and both the men and women of the town went to the gate of the abbey to receive the abbot's final answer. He, however, again put them off, with the information that he was preparing for a journey into Lincolnshire, to meet the justices itinerant; and promised that he would settle the affair on his return. The townsmen, however, were not satisfied with this, but went into the pasture, and in driving out the abbot's mares and colts, drowned three worth twenty shillings, spoiled ten more to the value of ten marks, and beat the keepers who resisted them even to the shedding of blood. Fearing that they should be prosecuted on the return of the abbot, they desired a "love day," and offered to pay damages for the injury committed; but instead of doing so they went to London, and accused the abbot to the king of having wrongfully taken away their common land, and of bringing up new customs; adding that he would "eat them up to the bone." The abbot now excommunicated the men of Waltham; and they impleaded him at common law, for appropriating their common land to himself. After a long suit in the king's bench, the townsmen lost their cause, and were glad to confess that they had done wrong. They were amerced twenty marks, which the abbot remitted; and, on their submission, he assayed them from the excommunication. The same abbot was soon after engaged in a law-suit with Peter, duke of Savoy, the king's uncle, who was lord of the manor of Cheshunt, concerning some meadow land between two branches of the river Lea; one asserting that the eastern stream, the other that the western stream was the main current of the river dividing the counties* of Essex and Hertfordshire. Abbot Simon and duke Peter at

Disputes
between
the monks
and
townsmen

* "Here marke that Cheston men and Hartfordshire men say that the kinge's streame at Waultham partith Herthfordshir and Estsax. But Estsax men by forest charter claime shire grounde of Estsax to Smaulley bridge."—*Leland, Itin.* vol. vi. p. 42. *Ed. Hearne.*

BOOK II. length came to an agreement; but the dispute about the land was often revived, and was undecided when the convent was resigned to Henry the eighth.*

On the surrender of the abbey to the king's commissioners, in 1593, the gross amount of the revenues, according to Speed, was one thousand and seventy-nine pounds, twelve shillings, and a penny annually; and Dugdale states the clear income at nine hundred pounds, four shillings, and three pence. It was one of those convents whose superiors were mitred parliamentary barons, and in respect to precedence its abbots held the twentieth place among them in parliament.†

After the dissolution, the site of the abbey and nearly the whole of its extensive possessions, were granted on a lease of thirty-one years, to sir Anthony Denny, gentleman of the privy chamber to king Henry the eighth; who dying in 1549, his widow purchased the reversion in fee from king Edward the sixth. Sir Edward Denny, grandson to sir Anthony, created earl of Norwiche by king Charles the first, was the next possessor: from him it passed, by the marriage of his daughter Honora, to the celebrated James Hay, earl of Carlisle; and afterwards was conveyed to the family of sir William Wake, bart. of Clevedon, in Somersetshire.

Abbey-house

The abbey-house was a large building, of which the front was modernised by Charles Wake Jones, esq., and the whole of it was pulled down in 1770. An arched gateway over a bridge, near the abbey-mills, and a dark vaulted passage of two divisions, extending from the house to the convent garden, are all that remain of this ancient structure.‡

* Farmer's History of Waltham, p. 71, &c. who relates the following story of this last-mentioned monarch:—Having disguised himself in the dress of one of his guards, he contrived to visit, about dinner-time, the abbey of Waltham, where he was immediately invited to the abbot's table. A sirloin of beef being set before him, he played so good a part that the abbot exclaimed, "Well fare thy heart, and here's a cup of sack to the health of thy master; I would give a hundred pounds, could I feed so heartily on beef as thou dost; but my poor queasy stomach can hardly digest the breast of a chicken." The king pledged him in return, and, having dined heartily and thanked the abbot for his good cheer, he departed. A few days after, the abbot was sent for to London and lodged in the Tower, where he was kept a close prisoner, and, for some time, fed upon bread and water. At length a sirloin of beef was set before him, on which he fed as heartily as one of his own ploughmen. In the midst of his meal, the king burst into the room from a private closet, and demanded his hundred pounds, which the abbot gave with no small pleasure; and on being released returned to his monastery with a heart and pocket much lighter than when he left it a few days before.

† A complete list of the deans and abbots of Waltham is given in an excellent account of the abbey in the "Graphic Illustrator," by E. W. Brayley, a meritorious publication, which unfortunately only reached a few numbers. Lists are also to be found in Newcourt's Repertorium, and Brown Willis's History of Mitred Abbeyes.

‡ In the convent garden, which is now tenanted by a market-gardener, there is an aged tulip-tree, said to be the largest in England. This tree is yet observed to bear a great abundance of flowers; and near the abbey-mill, which is still occupied for grinding corn, there is a wide space of ground, surrounded by small dwellings, called the Bramblings, but formerly named Rome-land, as is conjectured, on account of its rents having been appropriated to the holy sec. On this spot king Henry the eighth is said

There are four hamlets, which are also manors. They are all within the forest. The hamlet of Sewardstone is south from Waltham, near the river: it is said to have formerly been a parish, and some remains of an old building have been spoken of as the ruins of the church. On the death of James, earl of Carlisle, this estate and Woodredon, or Roydon, were sold, as devised in his will of 1660; the first of these was purchased by William Pocock, in 1674, and it afterwards belonged to James Southeby, esq. from whom it descended to his posterity. Roydon, in 1742, belonged to John Gibson, esq. This hamlet is eastward from the church, on an eminence, which forms the boundary of the extensive prospect from Cheshunt, in Hertfordshire.

CHAP.
XIII.

Seward-
stone.

Woodroy-
don or
Roydon.

Upshire and Hallifield continued in possession of the crown, after the dissolution of the abbey, till 1571, when they were granted, with other possessions, to Richard Hill and William James. Hallifield Hall afterwards belonged to the Collard family, of Albanes, in Bernston.*

Upshire
and
Hallifield.

Harold's park is part of the lands belonging to the parl of that name, and part of what he gave to the abbey; it is about three miles north-east from the church; the house is in this parish, but most of the lands are in Nasing.

Harold's
Park.

Warley park formerly was in the possession of Richard Morgan, esq. and is now the elegant seat of William Banbury, esq.; it is near Copped Hall, and the grounds extend to the parish of Epping.

Warley
Park.

In various parts of this parish, particularly near the town and the London road, numerous gentlemen's houses occupy agreeable situations; and at High Beach and Sewardstone Green, on the borders of the forest, numerous genteel mansions and elegant seats, add to or share the unrivalled beauty of the surrounding scenery.

to have had a small pleasure-house, which he frequently occupied on his visits to Waltham. The statute fair is yet held on this ground.

* At a forest court, held October 4, 1670, before Aubrey, earl of Oxford, chief-justice in Eyre of the forests on this side the Trent, and steward of the forest of Essex, the claim of the lord of the manor of Waltham upon this forest, with other liberties, immunities, privileges, &c. was very ample and extensive, comprehending whatever seemed to have been granted to the abbey; and to this document all persons concerned may at any time refer.

The inhabitants of ancient messuages and tenements in Sewardstone hamlet, as well free as customary, claimed common of pasture in all the wastes there, the whole year, for neat beasts, and horse beasts; pannage for their hogs, except in the forbidden or fence month (that is, fifteen days before old Midsummer-day and fifteen days after), and common of estovers, or liberty of cutting wood on the wastes, sufficient for their firing, from All-Saints to St. George's; to be drawn away each time on a sledge, only with two horses. The customary tenants of Upshire hamlet claimed, in the waste of the forest, common of pasture all the year, for all their commonable cattle, except in the forbidden month; and common of estovers by prescription, in the woods called Otehawes, Redding-hills, Woodriddens, Harth-hills, Longrunning, Burned-hearth, Leading-quean, Highbeach-green, and Amesbury.

The lord of the manor of Hallifield claimed to hold a capital messuage and one hundred acres in the hamlet of Hallifield and Upshire; and to have free liberty to cut trees and wood growing upon his own grounds, for repairs, and hedge-bote and fire-bote.

BOOK II.
Church.

The original abbey church of Waltham, dedicated to the Holy Cross and St. Nicholas, was built in the usual cathedral form, and consisted of a nave, transept, choir, ante-chapel, &c. It was a very considerable structure, and covered a large extent of ground, of which some idea may be formed when we find that the situation of Harold's tomb was about forty yards from the termination of the present building, in what is supposed to have been at that time the east end of the choir, or of some chapel beyond it. The intersection of the transept is yet visible. The ancient tower rose above this, and contained "five great tunable bells," which, on the suppression, were purchased of the king's commissioners. Part of the tower having been some time in a very decayed state, fell down soon after the surrender of the abbey, probably on pulling down the choir, which, with the east chancel and transept, were entirely destroyed,* leaving only the west end of the building, which constitutes the present parochial church.

This venerable relic of antiquity is rather large than handsome, and very dark within; yet it contains many curious and interesting specimens of ornamented columns, semi-circular arches, and other characteristics of Norman architecture. The length of the building is one hundred and six feet; and in breadth, including side aisles, it is fifty-three feet; the tower is fifteen feet square; six arches on each side separate the nave from the aisles; five of them are semi-circular, and decorated with rude zig-zag and spiral ornaments;† the sixth of these, at the west end, in either series, is pointed, indicating a later construction. Massive columns support these arches, above which there are two double rows of smaller arches, with corresponding ornaments. The upper rows of these enlighten the roof, and at the bottom of the lower tier there is the narrow passage called triforia, generally found in conventual and cathedral churches. The roof is of timber, of modern construction, but little ornamented; and modern galleries have been erected over the side aisles. Four of the pillars, two opposite each other on each side of the nave, are ornamented with wavy and spiral indentations, similar to those of the nave and choir in Durham cathedral. The square tower at the west end was erected in 1558; it rises to the height of eighty-six feet,‡

* Anno 1556, imprimis, for coles to undermine a piece of the steeple, which stood after the first fall, two shillings.—*Churchwardens' accounts.*

† The spiral grooves, (deeply cut) proceeding from the base to the capital, on two of these columns, and indented zig-zags, surrounding two others in successive rows, are exactly similar to the great columns of the nave in Durham cathedral, the re-building of which was commenced in the Norman style in 1096, and which is one of the most interesting fabrics in the kingdom.

‡ The fund to defray the expense of building it was acquired from various sources; as the sale of stone, lead, and timber from the monastic buildings; but chiefly by the sale of the goods of a brotherhood belonging to this church, consisting of three priests, three choristers, and two sextons, which was not dissolved till the time of Edward the sixth. Fuller says, the bells purchased from the old steeple were for some years hung in a temporary timber frame, erected at the south-east end of the church-yard, where there then stood two large yew trees; and they remained there till the present structure was completed;

and contains six bells.* From the south side of the church a chapel projects, formerly "Our Lady's," now a school-room, under which there is a beautiful arched crypt; "the fairest," says Fuller, "that ever I saw." This was once a place of worship, having its priest and altar, and a reading-desk, covered with silver. It is yet a matter of doubt whether this was the chapel stated to have been here, dedicated to St. George. What remains of a third chapel is appropriated to the reception of broken tomb-stones and rubbish, at the south-east corner of the church.

The entrance under the tower is evidently of later workmanship than the tower itself; and though we may believe this door-way to have belonged to the original church, yet it seems probable, from the sculptured foliage of the capitals here, and the high-pointed form of this and of the two contiguous arches of the side aisles, originally semi-circular, that both have been altered in the later part of the reign of Henry the third. The south aisle is but little altered, and the windows retain nearly their original forms: that on the north has been more modernised. Toward the east end, the arms of Philip and Mary are displayed on a handsome screen of wood; and near it there formerly was a painting of the founder Harold, on glass, which was destroyed by the puritanical zeal of the fanatics, in the beginning of the reign of Charles the first. The font is apparently very ancient.†

but that, notwithstanding gifts of timber, &c. the funds fell so short, that they were obliged to be sold to raise more money; so that Waltham, which formerly had "steeple-less bells, now had a bell-less steeple."—*History of Waltham Abbey*.

* These were hung in the tower, in the early part of the present century.

† The living of this church is a perpetual curacy, and a donative in the gift of the trustees, under the will of the earl of Norwich, who gave a messuage (for the habitation) and a rent charge of one hundred pounds a year, payable out of the manor of Claveringbury. The duties in fees in respect of the soil and building of this church, and of the church-yard, are payable to the churchwardens in trust for the parish. The estates vested in trustees for repairing and maintaining the church, consist of meadow and arable lands, and two dwelling-houses, the present annual receipts being ninety-one pounds, fourteen shillings. *From tables of benefactions, &c. in the church, from 1579 to 1826.*

The tomb of Harold, at the east end of the church, was of plain but rich grey marble, on which was "a sort of cross fleury, much descanted on by art," says Fuller; and his epitaph, according to the same author, was this pathetic sentence, "Harold infelix:" but Weever gives half a dozen lines of barbarous Latin, which are probably genuine, as they have been preserved in a very ancient MS. belonging to the abbey.—*Harl. MS. 3776.*

Inscriptions.

In the time of Elizabeth, sir Edward Denny's gardener discovered a large stone coffin, supposed to contain the royal corpse; and a second coffin was afterwards discovered, supposed one of the brothers; the contents of both being exposed to the air, crumbled into dust.

Besides king Harold and his two brothers, Gyrth and Leofwine, many persons of eminence were buried here in the early ages: Hugh Nevil, protho-forester of England, who died "full of years" in 1222, was, according to Matthew Paris, buried here, "under a noble engraven marble sepulchre:" also, his son, John Nevil, who succeeded to his offices and estates. Robert Passelow, archdeacon of Lewes, a despised and discarded minion of Henry the third, who died at his house at Waltham, in 1252. A defaced gray slab, near the altar rails, indented on which is a mitred figure, with two or three plates of queen Elizabeth's time, are the oldest memorials that now remain.

There is a mural monument near the east end of the south aisle for sir Edward Denny, knt. "sonn of

BOOK II.

Natives
and resi-
dents at
Waltham.

This town gave birth to Roger de Waltham, a canon of St. Paul's, and a writer of some note in the thirteenth century; and to John de Waltham, keeper of the privy seal in the reign of Richard the second. Robert Fuller, the last abbot, to whom the temporalities were restored in 1526, surrendered this convent in 1541, and was afterwards elected prior of St. Bartholomew, in Smithfield: from his history, written by right honourable sir Anthony Denny, counsellor of estate, and executor to king Henry VIII., and of Joan Champernon, his wife," and his lady, who was the daughter of Pierce Edgecombe, esq. of Mount Edgecombe, and "syntime maide of honor to queene Elizabeth," and who, "ovt of meane fortvnes, but no meane affection, prodced this monvment." Sir Edward was one of the council of Munster, in Ireland, and governor of Kerry and Desmond. He died on the 12th of February, 1599, aged 52 years, and is represented in plate armour, lying on his side; his right hand resting on his sword. His lady has a ruff and close boddice: and, kneeling in front, are their ten children, six boys and four girls. "This worthy knight, cvt off like a pleasavnt frvit before perfect ripeness," was "religiovs, wise, just, right valiant, most active, learnings frinde, prides foe, kindly lovinge, and mvch beloved; and that he was honored with ye dignities of knighthood by dve deserte, in ye field." Over the tomb are the family arms, (with quarterings.) Gules, a saltire argent, between twelve crosses pattée or.

On the same monument:—

"Learn, cufrious reader, ere thof pass,
That once sir Edward Denny was
A courtier of the chamber,

A soldier of the field,
Whose tongue could never flatter,
Whose heart could never yield."

Edward Denny, first and only earl of Norwich, was also buried in this church, in Dec. 1630. Also, the lady Elizabeth Greville, daughter of lord John Grey, of Groby.

On a large altar-tomb in the north aisle, bearing in front a ship under sail, sculptured in alabaster, with shields of arms and other ornaments, is a Latin epitaph, of which the following is a translation:—"Under this marble lie buried the remains of Robert Smith, formerly captain of a merchant-ship, who visited the different climes of the world, whence he brought back both fame and riches. He was a man of honest life, free from crimes; in all his adventures, amidst the seas and among enemies, he never was deficient in fortitude, and in money affairs he ever preserved probity. At length, weary of public life, though always prosperous, he retired to his villa near this church, to enjoy solitude, where afar from business, spending his time in agricultural pursuits, he enjoyed an honourable relaxation. He was born at Banbury, in Oxfordshire, in the month of February, 1637, of an ancient and formerly opulent family; which afterwards being reduced to poverty, he, while alive, affectionately supported, and, on his death, honourably provided for. In the month of March, 1697, having completed his sixtieth year, while preparing to attend, as was usual with him, divine service, he was struck with apoplexy, and passed quickly from sound health to a happy immortality. He had but one wife, Mary Duffield, of Medmenham, in Buckinghamshire, by whom he had no offspring, but she was to him in all other respects an excellent wife. She also is a woman of an ancient family, which she adorns daily with new virtues; while her husband lived, she performed all the duties of a good wife, and, when he died, she wisely determined, as fits a widow, to lead a life of mourning, and hung up to the eternal memory of her husband this votive tablet."

In the same aisle a white marble tablet, with the figure of an angel weeping over an urn, bears an inscription to the memory of Thomas Leverton, esq., "a benefactor to this, his native parish, the donor of its organ, and the founder of its charity-schools." He was "many years architect and surveyor to his Majesty's land revenue, and in other public offices;" but, dying on the 23d of September, 1824, aged eighty-one years, his remains were interred in the nave. Arms: Gules, three estoiles with eight points, a canton ermine. Crest: a pelican or.

The charities of this parish are too numerous for insertion—of those of older date, Green's almshouses were rebuilt in 1818, in a very handsome style; the expenses defrayed by money left for that purpose by Mrs. Robert Mason.

in four hundred and sixty pages, folio, the fair manuscript of which was in the possession of the earl of Carlisle, Fuller, his namesake (made curate of Waltham by that nobleman in 1648), professes to have derived all the materials of his account of "Waltham Abbey," given in his "Church History of Britain," which was published in 1656.

The population of this parish, in 1821, was as follows: the town, 2097; hamlet of Holyfield, 293: of Sewardstone, 853; Upshire, 739: in 1831, the town was 2202; Holyfield, 332; Sewardstone, 825; Upshire, 745; in all, 4104.

EPPING.

This large parish, extending north-east from Waltham Abbey, is above thirty miles in circumference; it lies on the borders of the forest, and is divided into Epping Upland, where the church is situated, and the Town-side, where the town is built; consisting of one long and wide street, on a ridge of hills of considerable extent, north and south; it is of later origin than the church, and seems to have become more considerable after the turning of the road, which used to pass from Harlow to London, by the corner of Wintry Wood, across the forest to Abridge. In 1518, John Baker, mercer, of Epping, in his will charged his estate of Stonards, in Theydon Gernon, with payment of a sum of money for repairing the road between Harlow and London by Epping Street, for the purpose, as is supposed, which was ultimately effected, of inducing travellers to pass this way; and the high road to Newmarket passes through the town.

There are some good houses of modern erection; and, besides the Episcopal chapel, which is an elegant building, there are places for public worship, belonging to the Independents, and to the society of Friends. In the summer months this place is resorted to on account of its healthy and pleasant situation, and it is also well suited for schools, of which there are several, among which may be mentioned in particular a boarding-school for boys, sons of the members of the society of Friends, opened in this town about thirty years ago, by Mr. Isaac Payne, and during that period of time the number of scholars has been between sixty and seventy, without any variation worth mentioning; latterly, however, many children belonging to other religious sects have been admitted; a fact which may be regarded as a proof of the growing liberality of the age.

This town, though situated upon a ridge, is well supplied with water from land springs; but though several attempts have been made here, as well as in the neighbouring parishes, to procure a purer and more certain supply of this prime necessary of life, from what is termed the *main spring*, yet it is believed that they have in no instance succeeded. A well was sunk, a few years since, on Mr. Payne's premises, to the depth of two hundred feet; boring was then commenced, and continued two

BOOK II. hundred and twenty feet farther, but without reaching the main spring. The blue clay began to yield to a lighter and more sandy substance, but it being found impracticable to keep out the water from the land springs, the undertaking was given over as hopeless, and the well covered in. At the end of five months it was found that the water had risen to within ten feet of the surface, and it has so continued. This water is limpid and soft. The well extends eighty feet below the bed of the Thames, and rises three hundred and forty above its level. The weekly market is on Friday, and a large fair for cattle is held on Tuesday, in Whitsun-week, and another on the 18th of November, which is well attended by graziers from the adjoining districts. Distant from London sixteen miles.*

The lands of this parish are, in the record of Domesday, included in the hundred of Harlow, except what belonged to the canons of Waltham, which are entered in that half hundred. Afterwards, the whole were divided into eight manors.

Epping
manor.

Epping-bury manor-house is about a mile distant from the church northward, in a low situation, near the road; this estate forms part of what belonged to the convent of Waltham, according to the statement in Domesday, on its first institution, and therefore must have been given by earl Harold. When Henry the second converted that house into an abbey for regulars, he granted and gave them "Eppinges, with all its appertenances; and the land at Eppinges, which Bruning the priest held of the canons;† the tithes of the king's lordship in the same town, and the church, with all its appertenances, and the land of Helyoth." This, notwithstanding the words 'granted

* The soil in the neighbourhood of Epping is a wet strong loam, with little or no turnip land; and a large proportion of the lands here, and in other parts of the half hundred, are covered with very rich grass. The forest of Epping is an extensive tract of good woodland, deriving its present name from the town: formerly called Waltham Forest, and, in more remote ages, the forest of Essex; which, in the reign of James the second, extended almost over the whole of the county. This forest is under the jurisdiction of a lord warden and four verderers; the former of these titles is hereditary in the family of sir James Tilney Long, bart. The verderers are elected by the freeholders of the county, and retain their offices for life. The forest rights are as various as the different manors that surround it. In this forest, though within twelve miles of London, wild stags are yet found, and a stag is annually turned out on Easter Monday, under an establishment patronised by the principal merchants of the city; the kennel for the hounds, and the house belonging to the hunt, were some time ago rebuilt. The Easter hunt at Epping commenced in 1236, when king Henry the third confirmed to the citizens of London free warren, or liberty to hunt in a circuit round their city, in the forests of Stanway, (Staines) Hainault, &c. The lord mayor and aldermen formerly attended on these occasions. At the Forest-court, held in 1670, William lord Grey brought in a very large claim for his manor of Epping, of liberties, privileges, immunities, exemptions, courts baron and leet, view of frank-pledge, profits and emoluments, as extensive as any manor doth or can possibly enjoy, &c.; also, to have a weekly market here on Friday (as first granted by king Henry the third, in 1253) with two fairs, &c. The lord North and Grey obtained a grant for two markets weekly, one on Tuesday, the other on Friday: the first is disused.

† It has been supposed by some writers, that this manor is what in the Confessor's charter is named me: but this may be best ascertained by reference to the land-meetes in the charter itself. First,



and gave,' is only to be considered a confirmation charter of their former possessions, which they consequently retained till their dissolution; and it afterwards remained in the possession of the crown till queen Mary, in 1558, gave this manor to the dutchy of Lancaster; and it was, in 1572, granted, by queen Elizabeth, to Thomas Henneage and Anne his wife, in fee tail, to hold of the dutchy of Lancaster. Sir Thomas Henneage was captain of the guards, treasurer of the chamber, vice-chamberlain of the household, chancellor of the dutchy of Lancaster, and privy counsellor to queen Elizabeth;* he died in 1595, holding this manor of Epping with appertenances; by his wife Anne, daughter of sir Nicholas Pointz, by Joan, daughter of Thomas lord Berkley, he had his only daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, who was married to sir Moyle Finch, of Eastwell, in Kent, son of sir Thomas Finch, alias Herbert, lineally descended from Henry Fitz-Herbert, chamberlain to king Henry the first; and who had the name of Moyle from his mother, daughter and co-heiress of sir Thomas Moyle.† In 1635, their descendant, Thomas, earl of Winchelsea, sold this manor to William lord Grey, whose descendants retained possession of it till Ralph lord Grey, of Werke, who died at Epping without issue, in 1706, left this estate to his cousin, William lord North and Grey, whose widow, and his heir Francis, lord North, sold the manor and estate, together with Copped Hall, to Edward Conyers, esq. of Walthamstow.

This manor was originally divided into Epping-bury, and Epping-presbyter; the latter holds a court-leet here under a maple-tree, in the road between Epping-bury and the church; they both belong to the same lord, who is paramount of all the rest.

The ancient mansion of Copt, or Copped Hall,‡ was a little more southerly than the present building, which is nearly two miles from the church. The former was within the parish of Waltham, the latter is in that of Epping, as was determined by a legal investigation at the summer assizes in 1761. This estate was given by Richard the first to Richard Fitz-Aucher, who fixed his residence here, and built a stately

Copped
Hall.

Tippaburne, or brook; thence to the bounds of the valley, with its back inclosure; so to the water, and along that till you come again to Tippeburne. *Monastic.* vol. ii. p. 12. *N. Salmon,* p. 31.

* He was of the ancient family of Henneage, of the county of Lincoln, where they flourished from the time of Henry the third: Robert Henneage, his father, was auditor of the dutchy of Lancaster, and surveyor of the queen's woods beyond the Trent; and died in 1556.—*Col. Peirage,* ed. 1756, vol. ii. p. 307.

† Sir Moyle Finch, created a baronet in 1611, died in 1614: of his seven sons and four daughters, there survived him sir Thomas, John, sir Henneage, father of Henneage, created lord Finch and earl of Nottingham, ancestor of the earls of Winchelsea and Nottingham. Of the daughters, Katharine was married to sir John Wentworth, of Gosfield Hall, in Essex. The lady Elizabeth, their mother, was created viscountess of Maidstone in 1623, and countess of Winchelsea in 1628, with limitation to her heirs male. On her death in 1633, her second son and heir was Thomas, earl of Winchelsea.

‡ Supposed so named from the Saxon Coppe, the top of a hill.—*Morant.* Not so named from Cobbing, a rivulet near it, or from two turrets of the old house, coped, or covered with lead.—*Fuller's Hist. of Waltham Abbey,* p. 8, 9. It was a place of pleasure and privacy for the abbots of Waltham.

BOOK II. house, and enclosed a park. He held it in fee, and hereditarily of the abbey of Waltham,* and of the king by serjeancy; his successor was his son, sir Richard, succeeded by his second son, sir Henry, who, in 1295, had licence to add fifteen acres to his park of Copped, within the bounds of the forest. He held the manor called Copped Hall, and the manor of Shingle Hall, of the abbot, by homage; and on his death, in 1304, was succeeded by his son, sir Aucher Fitz-Aucher, a knight banneret,† who married Joanna, youngest daughter of sir Walter Faukenberg.‡ In 1350, in the reign of Edward the third, sir John de Shardlowe had this estate, and procured a licence for himself and Joan his wife, and his brother Thomas, to exchange the manors of Copped-Hall and Shingle Hall with the abbot of Waltham, for the manors of Boreham, in Essex, and Campes and Orsethe, in Cambridgeshire; and in 1374 the abbot had leave to enclose one hundred and twenty acres of his demesnes to enlarge his estates of Harold's Park and Copped Hall.

The abbey retained possession of this estate till the time of Henry the eighth, when it was purchased for the king by Thomas Cromwell; or, according to others,§ Thomas Fuller, the last abbot, disposed of this noble estate to the king, in the hope to have preserved the rest of his revenues. The abbey had, in exchange for it, Caen-fields and Caen-wood, Pancras, Kentish-town, and the manor of Dame Ellens, in Little Warley; and this exchange was authorised by act of parliament. Queen Mary annexed this manor to the duchy of Lancaster; and, in 1564, it was granted, by queen Elizabeth, to sir Thomas Henneage, whose family, after his decease, sold it to Lionel Cranfield, earl of Middlesex, and, in 1622, lord high treasurer. He died in 1645, leaving James, his son and heir, who, in 1651, died without issue, as did also his brother Lionel, the next heir, in 1674, leaving this estate to his nephew, Charles Sackville, lord Buckhurst, eldest son and heir of Richard Sackville, earl of Dorset, by Frances his wife, only daughter and at length sole heiress to the said Lionel Cranfield, first earl of Middlesex: and in consequence he was created earl of Middlesex in 1675, and on the death of his father, in 1677, became earl of Dorset. In 1700, he sold this seat and estate to Thomas Webster, of Nelmes, in Havering liberty, who, in 1703, was created a baronet, and was member of parliament for Colchester for 1705, 1707, 1708, 1713, and 1722; he was also sheriff for the county in 1704, and one of the verderers of Waltham forest in 1718. He sold this estate to Edward Conyers, esq. of Walthamstow; and it has descended to his posterity, of whom H. J. Conyers, esq. is the present possessor.||

* Fuller's History of Waltham, p. 8.

† Arms of Fitz-Aucher: Ermine, on a chief azure, three lionels rampant, or.

‡ Monasticon, vol. ii. p. 149.

§ Fuller's History of Waltham, p. 11, 12.

|| Edward Conyers, esq. of Walthamstow, was descended from the ancient family of Conyers, or Coniers, seated in Yorkshire, and in the bishopric of Durham: his more immediate ancestors being of Boltby, and

The stately and elegant mansion of Copped Hall, nearly in the centre of a large park, is a conspicuous object on grounds of considerable elevation, presenting grand and very extensive views, and enriched by a succession of groves and plantations, rising from the lower grounds, and forming varied and boldly irregular scenery. The house is a large and nearly square building of white bricks, much admired for the closeness and neatness of their jointings, and the symmetry of their forms, having been cast on purpose in moulds of iron; and since its erection this edifice has received very important improvements under the direction of James Wyatt, esq.

The park, with some other lands included in the estate, forms an enclosure of four thousand acres, of which above four hundred were some time ago an unprofitable waste, covered with hornbeam, pollards, and brushwood, and infested with lawless bands of wood and deer stealers, whose forefathers, haunting the close coverts of Epping forest, had subsisted by plunder for centuries. * By the praiseworthy exertions of John

Baglail Hall, near Scarborough. Tristram Conyers, esq. the first that settled in Essex, was of Walthamstow, and had possessions at St. Helen's, Bishopsgate, London; and, in Yorkshire, the manors of Scarborough and Clayton, in Skipsey; with other estates at Holbeck, Moulton-fleet, and Quadload, in Lincolnshire: on his decease, in 1619, his heir was his brother, William Conyers, esq. at that time seventy-six years of age: he died without issue; and their brother, Robert Conyers, merchant, of London, succeeded: he married Blanch, sister and heiress of Dunstan Ducke, esq. of Putney, in Surrey; and had by her William, his heir; who was also heir to his two uncles; he was serjeant-at-law. By his first wife, Mary, daughter of sir Francis Harvey, of Northamptonshire, justice of the king's bench, the only survivors of a numerous family were Elizabeth, Tristram, Mary, and William. By his second wife, Dorothy, daughter of sir William Beecher, knight, of Bedfordshire, he had five sons and five daughters; but on his decease his only surviving offspring by her, were Oliver, Dorothy, Judith, and Margaret. He died in 1659, aged seventy-three, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Tristram Conyers, esq. who was also serjeant-at-law. He married Winifred, daughter of sir Gilbert Gerrard, bart. of Harrow on the Hill, a beautiful and accomplished lady, by whom he had five sons and six daughters. Of the sons, sir Gerard Conyers, kn. was alderman of London, and died in 1737: he married Anne, daughter of sir Christopher Lethieullier. Mary, one of their daughters, was married to sir Strange Joscelyn, bart. of Hide-hall. John Conyers, esq. the eldest son and heir, was of Queen's college, Oxford, and of the Middle Temple: he was king's counsel and member of parliament for East Grinstead in 1695, 1698, 1700, 1705, and several other times before his decease, in 1722. He married Mary, daughter and heiress of George Lee, esq. of Stoke Milborough, in Shropshire, and had sixteen children; of whom there survived only Edward, Cecilia (married to Henry Brabant, esq.), Elizabeth (wife of Herbert Perrot, esq. son of sir John Pakington, bart. of Worcester-shire), and Dorothy, married to sir Charles Mordaunt, of Little Massingham, bart. Edward Conyers, esq. the son and heir, was of Corpus Christi College, in Oxford, and of the Middle Temple. In 1722 and 1734, he was member of parliament for East Grinstead; and, dying in 1742, left by his wife Matilda, youngest daughter of William lord Lempster, John Conyers, esq. his son and heir, of Copped Hall; who, by his first wife, Hannah, daughter of Richard Warner, esq. of Norfolk, had no issue; but by his second wife, the lady Henrietta Fermor, third daughter of Thomas, earl of Pomfret, he had John Conyers, esq. of Copped Hall, the rev. Edward Conyers, A.M. vicar of Epping and Walthamstow, George, an officer in the navy, Juliana, Matilda, and eight other children. The eldest son, John, married a daughter of— Matthews, esq. and had by her Henry John Conyers, esq. and a daughter. Arms of Conyers: Azure, a maunch, or, over all, a bendlet goby, ermine and gules.

BOOK II. Conyers, esq. a former owner of the estate, a number of these outcasts were reformed, and prevailed on to live in small cottages built on purpose for them, at a distance from each other, with a portion of garden ground to each. He also provided them with labour, and agreed to supply them with fire-wood. By this judicious plan, the idle have been inured to habits of industry, and a large tract of waste land rendered subservient to public utility. An important improvement was also effected in the cultivation of a piece of ground called the Warren, which consists of one hundred and one acres, and was, about seventy years ago, offered to a speculating farmer, on a lease of forty years, at two shillings and sixpence per acre. He, however, refused those terms, supposing the land absolutely unproductive. The ground was then ploughed, and sown with seeds of almost every kind of tree, thrown in indiscriminately, and left to the operations of Nature. The young plants sprang up, and, without further attention, have thriven with so much vigour, as to form one of the finest and most valuable woods in this part of the country. Particularly one tree, a cedar of Lebanon, is deserving notice on account of its rapid growth: it was sown in 1747. The girth of the bole, some time ago, measured upwards of twelve feet, and the extent of the branches on each side exceeded twelve yards.

Shingle
Hall.

Shingle Hall, near or on Epping Green, three-quarters of a mile north-east from the church, was holden, with Copped Hall, of the abbot of Waltham, by Henry Fitz-Aucher, in 1304; and in 1350, having become the possession of the Shardlowe family, was exchanged with the abbot and convent of Waltham for other estates, by sir John de Shardlowe. It continued in the abbey, and was farmed under them by John Denton, at the time of the dissolution. In 1552, it was granted by Edward the sixth to Henry lord Morley, from whom it was conveyed, in 1562, to John Benton; on whose death, in 1570, his successor was his son Andrew, succeeded by his son, also named Andrew. The estate was afterwards sold by Ralph Benton to Mr. Richard Day, who, previous to his death, in 1741, left it, by will, to his grandson, sir Richard Day Jenour, bart., on whose death, in 1744, it came to his mother, Joan, daughter of the said Mr. Day.

Chambers

The manor-house of Chambers, half a mile west from the church, is pleasantly situated on high ground. The name is variously written Del Chambre, Atte Chambre, and Chambre; and is supposed to have been an ancient lodge, or chamber in the forest. It was holden in fee-tail by Edmund del Chambre, of Epping, in 1410, of the abbot and convent of Waltham, as at that time lords paramount of this parish: the son and heir of Edmund was John del Chambre. In 1422, Thomas Atte Chambre, brother of Edmund, released all his right to lands here to Thomas Tyrell, Thomas Lyes, clerk, and others; as did also John Chambre, esq. in 1430, to John Randolf, clerk. From this family it passed to the family of Skreen, of Roxwell. John Skreen, who died in 1452, held this manor of the king, by the service of a fourth of a knight's fee;

and in 1474, sir John Skreen, his son, died in possession of it. Richard Harper, sen. esq. who died in 1518, held this manor of the abbot of Waltham, by fealty and rent of one red rose; his heir was his grandson George. In 1536, it was holden of the king as of his abbey of Waltham, by the same services as formerly, by John Halmer, succeeded by his son Thomas, followed by Henry Halmer, who, in 1557, passed it by fine to Richard Whorewood. It afterwards was sold to — Blackwell; and from William Blackwell passed, in 1568, to John: succeeded by a second John, and by Edward Blackwell; after whom it belonged to Edward Searle; succeeded by his son John;* whose heir was his son Andrew; who dying about six weeks after marriage, his widow was married to his kinsman, Andrew Searle, who had the estate. Andrew, called captain Searle, had one son, and a daughter, wife of Oliver Martin. Andrew Searle, the son, had Andrew, John, and Richard. Andrew Searle, esq. who succeeded his father, was of the Middle Temple, and barrister-at-law; he married Anne, youngest daughter of Henry Beadel, an eminent scrivener in London, who was accidentally drowned in 1762.

The manor-house of Giles is half a mile south from Chambers. The estate, in 1566, passed by fine from Thomas Hales, gent. to Anthony Brown, one of the justices of the common pleas; and in 1603 had become the property of Richard Rainsford, esq. whose heir was Robert, his son. In 1621, it had become the property of Thomas Palmer, esq. third son of Henry Palmer, of Dewshall, in Lambourn. He was of St. John's College, Cambridge, and a barrister of Lincoln's-inn, and died here in 1621, without issue. The Searle family had afterwards possession of this estate.

Giles.

A manor named Campions formerly belonged to the Searle family; and, sometime before the year 1635, was in the possession of Thomas Wynch; and in 1748, William Hester, esq. of the court of common pleas, died possessed of it; from whom it descended to his heirs.

Campions

The small manor of Madeleys consists of two farms, holden of the manor of Epping; the house is a short distance westward from Shingle Hall. The most ancient possessors of this estate were of the family of Welles, lords of the neighbouring manors of Theydon Gernon and Boys. In 1345, Adam de Welles died, holding this tenement called Madles of the earl of Oxford, by the service of keeping one sparrowhawk, at the will and at the charge of the said earl. John de Welles, his son, held this manor in 1361; whose successor in this possession was sir John de Welles, his son, who died in 1421, holding this manor of the earl of Stafford. His son Udo died before him, but left a son named Leo, who was his grandfather's heir; and at the time of his death, in 1461, held Madles and Hemnales, as parcel of Gaynes Park, in They-

Madeleys,
or Madles

* He was one of those who were obliged to compound for their estates during the troublesome times of the struggle between the parliament and the friends of the family of Stuart.

BOOK II. don Gernon.* Richard was his son and heir. Cicely, wife of John viscount Wells, and daughter of king Edward the fourth, who died in 1507, held this, with the two other manors, of the duke of Buckingham, of his castle of Ongar, by the service of the wardstaff.† By the same service, sir William Fitzwilliams, of Milton, in Northamptonshire, who died in 1534, held this manor, Gaynes Park, and Hemnalls, of the duke of Buckingham, as of his castle of Ongar. William, his son and heir, passed it by fine, in 1553, with other lands in Little Parndon, to John Green; who, at the time of his death in 1624, held this manor of Robert, earl of Warwick, by the service of the wardstaff. John, his son, was his heir. This estate afterwards passed, by marriage, to — Rawlins; of whom it was purchased by Mr. Blake, merchant, of London.

Rye, or
Rise Hill.

A manor in Domesday, placed in the hundred of Harlow, which belonged in the time of the Saxons to Ansgar, and at the survey to Alan, earl of Bretagne, is supposed to be what is called the manor or hamlet of Rise-hill, or Rye-hill, bordering on Little Parndon, the inhabitants of which do their suit and service to the leet of the hundred of Harlow; they elect their own constable and surveyor. This hamlet consists of a few straggling houses, little farms, or cottages. A part of this estate has been sometimes called the manor, at other times the messuage of Hayles, or Hales; Nicholas Wychingham had it, as appears by his will, proved in 1434; his successor was his grandson Robert. In 1496, Joan Biddlesdon, a widow, died holding this estate, whose heir was her son Thomas; and, in 1570, it belonged to John Smith, gent. of Epping, who died in 1570; his heir was his son Nicholas. In 1593, it belonged to sir William Rowe; afterwards to Mr. Searle, of whom it was purchased by Isaac Foster, alderman of London, who dying without issue, gave it to his brother's son, Abraham Foster, esq. of Eltham, in Kent: he, on his decease, left, by Anne his wife, two daughters, the one married to Lewis Scawen, esq. the other to Mr. Richard Merry, merchant, of London.

Church.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is an ancient building, pleasantly situated on ground considerably elevated, and surrounded by beautiful rural scenery; the sum of two hundred and sixty pounds, arising from the gift of Mr. John Baker, was expended in repairing and beautifying this building. The nave is of disproportionate length, and paved with stone from the isle of Purbeck; the chancel, without the rails, of Portland stone, and within of white marble: and the wainscoting of the whole edifice is of Norway oak, eight feet high. The communion-table was at some distance from the east wall of the chancel, a singularity attributed to the orders of Jeremy

* The manor of Park Hall, or Gaynes Park, and the manors of Hemnalls and Madles, constituted the whole of Park Hall.—*Inquis. 1st Edward IV.*

† For a further account of the noble family of Welles, see Dugdale's *Baronetage*, vol. ii. p. 10.

Dyke, the vicar, in opposition to the authoritative injunctions issued by the party in power, to which, it is said, he did not feel inclined to submit.*

CHAP.
XIII.

After the dissolution of the abbey to which this church belonged, the rectory, with appertenances, was granted to Thomas Cormwell, who, in 1548, sold it to Francis Monox; but, in 1572, it had returned to the crown. The first institution to it, as a vicarage, was in 1545,† and the advowson of it remained in the crown, till it was granted, in 1572, to sir Thomas Henneage, and passed from him to the families of Finch, Grey, and Conyers.‡

The free chapel of Epping, dedicated to saint John the Baptist, is near the entrance of the town from the London road; it was granted, by the abbot and monks of Waltham, to John Peryent, who presented a chaplain, instituted to it, 14th February, 1540, as a free chapel, without cure of souls.§ In 1550 it was granted, by Edward

* An opinion expressed by Mr. John Lloyd, a succeeding incumbent, and by Mr. Holman.

† Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 14.

‡ On the south side of the chancel, on a flat stone, is a handsome brass, to the memory of Thomas Palmer, esq.; beneath the effigies of the deceased, who is habited in the robes of his profession, is the following inscription and arms: "Here lieth interred ye body of Thomas Palmer, esquire, in his youth a student and scholler in that famous nurserye of learning, Sct. John's Colledge, in Cambridge, and afterwards a professor of that illustrious and flourishing science of ye common law, and an vtter barrester of the right worshipful society of Lincoln's-inn (the third son of Henry Palmer, of Dews Hall, in the parish of Lambourne, in this county, esq. deceased); without issue he changed this life for immortalitie, at his then dwelling-house, called Gillies, in this parish, ye 28 of May, 1621, leaving Joan, his beloved wife, his sole executrix, ye daughter and heir of John Hogben, of the city of Canterburye, marchant, who, at her proper coste, in token of the true love and affection to her dear husband departed, hath caused this monument to be erected." (There is a pedigree of this family in the Harl. MS. No. 1083, f. 20; and the family of Hogben still remain in Kent, in the vicinity of Canterbury.) Beneath is a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation:

"Life is the gate of death, death the gate of life.
Thou shouldest not think him dead who lives
in heaven.
Thou art dust—I dying, am lifeless dust,
Thy lot is much worse than mine.
The impure world possesses thee, me the starry
heaven holds;

Thy life is to thee death, my death is to me
life.
Learn to die while thou art alive, that when death
comes thou mayest attain to life,
Thus neither will life be burdensome to thee,
nor death bitter."

The arms on this monument are—three escallops. Crest: a dragon's head issuing out of flames. Motto: "Secum fert omnia virtus." "Virtue carries all things with it." The original and significant arms of this family are—argent, a chevron between three palmers' scrips, sable, the tassels and buckles, or; which is beautifully illustrated by the inscription on the monument of Thomas Palmer, who married the daughter of Fitz-Simon, and is buried in the chancel of Snodland church, in Kent.

"Palmers all our faders were,
I a Palmer lived here,
And travel'd still, till worn wid age,
I ended this world's pilgrimage.

On the blest ascension day,
In the cheerful month of May,
A thousand with four hundred seven,
I took my journey hence to heaven."

§ Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 248.

BOOK II.

the sixth, to John Cokks, esq. with reserve to the inhabitants of free ingress and regress, for the hearing of divine service, as they had been accustomed in former times: in 1552, it was conveyed to Henry Aucher, esq. with the same reserve of free use to the inhabitants, they being on that account engaged to keep it in repair; and, in 1573, this chapel was vested in trustees for public use, which trust has been since occasionally renewed to the present time: in 1622, a new aisle was added, and another in 1662; and, about sixty years ago, it was spoken of as "a brick chapel, in a miserable condition."* It appears to have been afterwards repaired; but the old chapel not being large enough for the increased population, has been pulled down, and a new one, in a plain Gothic style, was erected in 1833.†

The sole management of Epping free-chapel remained in the trustees, exempt from the jurisdiction of the bishop, till a few years since, when the then minister, Dr. Barrow, obtained the consent of the trustees to have it licensed; and since that time the trustees nominate a minister, subject to the approval of the bishop.‡

Antiquities.

On the south-east side of Copped Hall Park, there are traces of an ancient camp, described (as it appeared at that time) in a letter from Mr. Letheuillier to Mr. Gough,

* Anonymous Hist. of Essex, 8vo. vol. iv. p. 176.

† Before the reformation, several persons had left lands and tenements to find a priest to sing mass in this chapel; and in the certificate it is said, that this was a great parish, "having in yt to the numbre of three hundred houseling people."

Inscriptions.

‡ Against the south wall of Epping chapel, a plain handsome monument was erected, with the following memorial, in gilt letters: "Near this place are deposited the remains of Mr. John Walkley, attorney-at-law, who died on the 20th day of November, 1791, aged sixty-three years: he lived respected and beloved for the integrity and beneficence of his character; and his memory will ever be venerated by the inhabitants of the town of Epping, for his liberal and permanent provision towards the maintenance of divine service, within this free chapel. The sum bequeathed by this worthy man is two thousand pounds, in the new South-sea annuities, and is vested in the hands of John Conyers, esq. lord of the manor of Eppingbury; the rev. Edward Conyers, clerk, vicar of the parish of Epping; Mr. Thomas Surridge, of Epping town, cooper, and Mr. James Windus, of Epping town aforesaid, gentleman, as trustees, for the purposes mentioned in a codicil to the will of the deceased, which are as follows:—to the officiating chaplain for the time being, per annum, thirty pounds; to the clerk, eight pounds; to a skilful singing-master, eight pounds; to the sexton, who is also bell-ringer, five pounds; to the female attendant and pew-keeper, one pound; to the clerk and warden of the trustees, four pounds; for the auditing of the accounts, and to provide an annual dinner for the officers and such of the trustees as choose to attend, four pounds.

In the same vault which contains the remains of Mr. Walkley, are also deposited those of his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Walkley, who died on the 28th of February, 1813, aged sixty-one years, whose entire concurrence in the pious and benevolent purposes of her late husband is manifested by bequeathing to trustees the sum of one hundred pounds, three per cent. consolidated annuities, the interest thereof to be distributed in bread or coals, as they may think best, on the sixth day of January yearly, for ever, unto and amongst twelve poor widows, resident in that part of Epping called Epping Town-side. The will is dated June 18, 1812.

Benefactions.

In 1828, Mr. Edward Dean, of Carpenter's-buildings, London, descended from the Deans of Hills Green, in Cheshire, left, by will, the sum of five hundred pounds, in the consolidated three per cent. annuities; the interest to be paid to the minister of the free episcopal chapel of Epping for the time being, except

from which the following account is extracted:—"This entrenchment is now entirely overgrown with old oaks and hornbeams. It was formerly in the very heart of the forest, and no road near it, till the present turnpike-road from London to Epping was made, almost in the memory of man, which now runs within a hundred yards of it; but the intrenchment cannot be perceived from thence, by reason of the wood which covers it. It is of an irregular figure, rather longest from east to west, and on a gentle declivity to the south-east. It contains nearly twelve acres, and is surrounded by a ditch, and a high bank much worn down by time, though, where there are angles, they are very bold and high. There are no regular openings, like gateways or entrances, only two places where the bank has been cut through, and the ditch filled up very lately, in order to make a straight road from Debden Green to Epping market. The boundary between the parishes of Waltham and Epping runs exactly through the middle of this entrenchment, whether carried so casually by the first settlers-out of these boundaries, or on purpose, as it was then a remarkable spot of ground, I leave to better judgments to conjecture. As I can find no reason to attribute this entrenchment either to the Romans, Saxons, or Danes, I cannot help concluding it to have been a British Oppidum; and perhaps it had some relation to other remains of that people which are discoverable in our forest. It is distant from Fifefield, where the celts and forge were lately discovered, about ten miles; and about eight from Navestock Common, where we visited the 'Templum Alatum.'"

In 1821, the population of this parish was two thousand one hundred and forty-six, and, in 1831, two thousand three hundred and thirteen.

NASING.

This parish occupies the north-west corner of the half hundred, part of it being on the side of a hill, and its general situation pleasant and healthy. From east to west it is four miles, and nearly the same from north to south; and is separated from Hertfordshire by the river Lea. Its respectable little village is distant from Epping four, and from London seventeen miles.

Nasing.

Nasing is one of the estates given by Harold to his college of Waltham,* which so much as shall from time to time be found necessary for the keeping in repair the "tombstones by him erected, in the parish church-yard of Epping, to perpetuate the memory of his dear children, Edward and Mary Dean."

Nasing-bury.

Jeremy Dyke, vicar of this parish in the time of king Charles the first, was distinguished as the author of numerous publications on subjects of general interest and importance; some of these bear the following titles: "A good Conscience; or a treatise, shewing the nature, means, markes, benefit, and necessitie thereof, by Jeremy Dyke, minister of God's word, at Epping, in Essex, &c. 1632." "Of the Right Receiving and Rooting in Christ, &c. 1640." "A Treatise on the Lord's Supper, 1645." "The Mischiefe and Miserie of Scandals taken and given, 1681." Some account is given of Mr. Dyke in Dyer's Hist. of Cambridge, vol. ii. p. 428.

* Monastic. Anglie.

BOOK II. was found possessed of it at the survey: there appears also to have been another estate here, in the time of Edward the Confessor, which belonged to three freemen, and, at the survey, to Ralph, brother of Ilger. King Henry the second confirmed to the abbey of Waltham two scrutlands,* of Nasinges, with the church, and all its appertences, as did also Richard the first, with all its wastes, and with one hundred and sixty acres of essarts in this place. Afterwards he appropriated this church, with that of Alrichsed, in Bedfordshire, to the chamber of the canons regular at Waltham, for the clothing of those who were in the old house there; enjoining that they should keep those churches in their own hands for the said use, and not grant them to any one, either by way of pension or farm. He also gave them the tithes of Langrich.† They had also other possessions here, which they held till their dissolution; and, in 1547, king Edward the sixth granted the manor or farm, and demesnes of Nasingbury, with Queen's Mead, and the rectory and tithes, to sir Ralph Sadlier; from whom they were the same year conveyed to sir Anthony Denny; and from him and his successors they descended to Charles Wake Jones, esq. Nasingbury. The manor-house is a mile west from the church: this estate belongs to sir William Wake.

Harold's
Park.

The house belonging to Harold's Park is in Waltham parish, but most of the lands are in Nasing: this estate belonged also to Waltham Abbey. It was given, by king Edward the sixth, in 1547, to John Dudley, earl of Warwick; and, in 1600, was granted, by queen Elizabeth, to sir Edward Denny. It afterwards became the property of Mr. Chauncy, of whom it was purchased by sir James Bateman. It is now occupied as a farm. The abbot of Waltham had a park here, inclosed by licence from Henry the third, in 1225. It is understood to have been at Fairmead, and was in the possession of the crown in the time of Edward the sixth.

The estates and hamlets of Nasing Lodge, Long Green, and Broadley Common, are in this parish; and Roydon hamlet is supposed to be the lands anciently belonging to Ralph, brother of Ilger.

The parsonage-house is a good old building, near the church, moated round.

Church.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a spacious structure, consisting of a chancel of one pace, and a nave, with a north aisle; at the west end there is a square tower embattled, with five bells. The body and aisle are divided by four pointed arches rising on circular clustered columns; and behind the first column, which is apparently hollow, is a small door, leading by narrow winding stairs to an aperture in front of the chancel, sufficiently large to exhibit a person nearly at full length to the congregation; whether this was originally intended as a place of penance is not certainly known, but it is evident that at no very remote period it has been used for purposes

* Scrutland, or Scrudland, is land allotted to the clothing of the inhabitants of a house belonging to a charitable institution; it is from the Saxon *scryud*, apparel or garment.

† Monast. Anglic. vol. ii. p. 11, 17.

of general thanksgiving, for on a wooden tablet beneath the aperture is inscribed the 116th Psalm: "I will pay my vows unto the Lord, in the sight of all his people, &c." This church, with its appertenances, was granted to Waltham abbey, by Henry the second; consequently, the rectory was appropriated to that house, and a vicarage ordained, of which they continued patrons till the dissolution. In 1547, king Edward the sixth granted the rectory and great tithes to sir Ralph Sadlier; from whom they passed to the Denny family, and their successors; but the advowson of the vicarage remained in the crown.

This vicarage was augmented by the benefactions of the rev. Stephen Hales and Mrs. Palmer, jointly with queen Anne's bounty.

In 1821, the parish contained seven hundred and forty-four, and, in 1831, seven hundred and fifty-seven inhabitants.

CHINGFORD.

The parish of Chingford, forming the south-western angle of Waltham half hundred, is seven miles in circumference; separated, on its western border, from Edmon-ton, in Middlesex, by the river Lea. The lands in many places rise high, with varied and extensive prospects into Kent and Hertfordshire. The name, in records written Chilgelford, Cingeford, Cinghefort, Echingselsford, Schingelford, Shingelford, Shym-gylford, is apparently from a ford over the river, and the Saxon Cinz, *i.e.* King's-ford the neighbouring meadows were also named King's-meads, and the Lea, the King's-stream.

Ching-
ford.

This village is on the border of the forest, and affords a pleasing and quiet retire-ment from the busy scenes of the metropolis; it is distinguished by its beautiful rural scenery, and numerous capital houses. Distant from London nine miles. There are three manors.*

The chief manor was given by king Edward the confessor to the cathedral church of St. Paul's; and Chingford Hall, the manor-house, is near the river, a mile south-west from the church; it has a court-leet and court-baron. At the Reformation, king Henry the eighth took this manor from the dean and chapter of St. Paul's; and in 1551, it was granted, by Edward the sixth, to sir Thomas Darcy; but queen Mary took it from him in 1553, and made a grant of it to Susan Tongue and her heirs: the widow Tongue was lady of the queen's bedchamber, daughter of Richard White, of Hutton, and widow of Thomas Tongue, Clarencieux king-at-arms. Harriotts and Stubwood, in this parish, were included in the grant. In 1557, a licence was obtained to convey the premises to certain persons, in trust; and in 1565, they became the property of Humphrey White, who, in 1567, conveyed this manor with appertenances

Chingford
St. Paul's.

* Chingford parish contains five hundred and ninety acres of arable, and one thousand three hundred and twenty acres of grass land, and about one hundred and ninety of wood.

BOOK II.

Chingford
Comitis.

to John Leigh, or Lee,* whose descendants were settled here considerably more than a century; till Edward, son of Edward Leigh, esq. who died in 1691, sold this estate to Robert Snell, esq. of Hertfordshire. The present lord of the manor is William Snell, esq. of Shenley, in Hertfordshire, brother of John Snell, who possessed it in 1795.†

The second capital manor in this parish, having for a series of years belonged to the noble family of Bouchier, earls of Essex, was on that account named Comit^{is}, or Earls. The mansion is on Friday Hill, a mile from the church, on the left-hand side of the road to Woodford. At the time of the survey, this manor belonged to Robert Gernon, ancestor of the family of Montfichet; and consequently was holden of their barony of Stansted Montfichet, by the service of one knight's fee: under them it was holden, in 1188, by Fulbert de Dover, second of the name, and lord of Chilham, in Kent: by his wife Roese, daughter of Geoffrey, son of Richard de Lucy, justice of England, he had Robert, who died in 1203: Richard de Dover, his son, also married a wife named Roese, and they held jointly this manor of Chingford, in the reign of Henry the third. Richard, their son and heir, by Joan his wife, who enjoyed this estate during her life, left Roese, his only daughter, who was married to Richard, natural son of king John, who had by her two daughters, co-heiresses, of whom Isabel, the younger, conveyed this estate to her husband, David de Strathbogie, earl of Athol.‡ Their son John, earl of Athol, had this inheritance; but during the cruel ambitious wars of king Edward the first against Scotland, happening to fall a sacrifice to that prince, for his adherence to Robert de Bruce, or Bruce, he had the favour, (says Mr. Morant) on account of his being descended from the blood royal, to be hanged on a gibbet fifty feet high. His head was fixed on London bridge, and his body burned. Afterwards his forfeited estate was given by king Edward to Ralph de Monthermer, earl of Gloucester, who had married his daughter, Joan de Acre, at that time widow of Gilbert de Clare. In the succeeding reign of Edward the second, David, son of the earl of Athol, compounded with Monthermer for his patrimonial estate; and his son David presented to the living in 1325. This was, however, only a part of the manor; the other portion having been conveyed to Bartholomew de

* He was of the ancient family of Leigh, of Baggesley, county of Chester. Sir Robert Leigh, probably the son of John, died in 1607, possessed of this manor and of Woodeheron, and Reddens, or Rayles, and Docke Marshes: his son and heir, sir Robert Leigh, knt. died in 1622, leaving by his wife Mary, daughter of Henry Josceline, of Torreles-hall, in Willingale, three sons and four daughters, of whom Robert was his heir and successor: on whose death, in 1673, his son, Edward Leigh, esq. succeeded, and had by Agnes, his third wife, Robert, Edward, and Mary. He died in 1691, and was buried, with many of his family, in this church.—Arms of Leigh: Argent, a fesse sable, between two pellets in chief, and a martlet of the second; in base a crest: on a torse, a bear muzzled and chained.

† Mr. Snell has about three hundred acres of forest land (adjoining to the parish of Waltham abbey), called Hawkswood, about half of which is woodland, the remainder waste. Chingford Hall and Friday-hill-house are now occupied as farm-houses.

‡ Sandford's Genealogical Hist. Dugd. Baron. vol. i. p. 461, 462.

Badlesmere; but after this nobleman had been beheaded, in 1321, for opposing the unlawful proceedings of queen Isabel, his widow, and his son Giles de Badlesmere, recovered this and the rest of his estates, through the favour of king Edward the third;* and, dying in 1338, left his four sisters his co-heiresses: Margery had this manor for her purparty, and was married to William lord Roos, of Hamlake, who, jointly with her, held this estate: he died in 1343, and the lady Margery in 1363. Thomas lord Roos was their son and successor, but the time of his death is unknown; his widow, Beatrix, died in 1415, holding this manor, which her eldest son, John lord Roos, also held of the heirs of John Montfichet; and, dying in 1421, was succeeded by his brother Thomas, who, at the time of his decease in 1430, left Thomas, his son, his successor, who at that time was three years of age: he had the misfortune to be attainted in 1461, for his adherence to king Henry the sixth; in consequence of which, king Edward the fourth gave this estate to his kinsman, Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex; on whose decease, in 1483, he was succeeded by his grandson, Henry, who was heir to his estate and dignity, and who died in 1540.

In the time of king Henry the eighth, this estate was restored to the family of Roos; for Edmund lord Roos, son of Thomas, in 1490, presented to the rectory; and his sister and co-heiress, Alienor, was married to sir Robert Manners, who, dying in 1508, left his son, George Manners, lord Roos; succeeded, on his death, in 1513, by his son Thomas, created earl of Rutland in 1525: in 1537, he exchanged this estate, with king Henry the eighth, for lands which had belonged to Coggeshall abbey.

The estate was afterwards holden of the crown till it was granted, in 1553, to Susan Tongue; whose nephew, Humphrey White, conveyed it, in 1561, to William Jefferson and others; and it afterwards passed to John Branch, whose three sisters, or their issue, were his co-heiresses; of whom Mary, married to William Udall, or Wedalle, had this estate; and their son, Henry Udall, in 1591, sold it to Launcelot Bathurst, and his son Ralph. Ralph, the latter, held it at the time of his death, in 1608, and his heir was his next brother, Ralph Bathurst, of whom the estate was purchased by Thomas Boothby, esq.†

* Besides the manor of Chingford, and the bailiwick and stewardship of Essex, holden of the king as of his crown, he had numerous other extensive possessions in this county.

† His successor was his son Robert, whose son and heir, created a baronet in 1660, was sir Thomas Boothby. He, dying without issue male, left this estate to his next surviving brother, Robert Boothby, esq., whose only son and heir, Thomas, succeeded; on whose decease he was succeeded by Robert Boothby, esq.—Arms of Boothby: Argent, on a canton sable, a lion's paw erased, or.

In 1670, Dame Elizabeth Boothby claimed within the forest, the manor of Chingford Comitis, with all liberties, emoluments, commons, wastes, fisheries, court-leet, and court-baron, and other immunities and privileges thereto belonging; free-warren at Danhurst-hill and Dovehouse-field; separate fishery in the river Lea, running through Chingford marshes, by charter. Also, for herself and tenants, common of pasture in the wastes and commonable places in the forest; and liberty to cut down pollard trees upon the demesnes of her manor; likewise hedge-bote; and to appoint a sworn wood-ward for her woods of Larks and Danhurst-hill.

BOOK II.

Gowers
and
Bucker-
rells.

Originally, there were only two manors in this parish; but part of the manor of Chingford Comitis, or Gernon, having been held of Giles de Plaiz, who died in 1303, as two knight's fees, by Alexander Bayloll, this part was afterwards reckoned another manor, and named Gowers and Buckerells: it was also called Pimp's manor, and there is a field which has retained the name of Pimp's Hall: it lies due north from Friday Hill. This estate, in 1544, styled late parcel of the lands of George Monox, was granted, by king Henry the eighth, to Geoffrey Lukyn and his heirs; and the said Geoffrey in that year sold it to Roland Rampston; his son, Robert Rampston, yeoman of the chamber to king Edward the sixth, queen Mary, and queen Elizabeth, died in 1585, leaving this and other possessions to his heir, Roland Rampston, son of his brother John; and he sold this estate, by the name of Gowers and Buckerells, alias Pimp's manor, to John Hare, esq. and Lucy his wife, and Nicholas, their son. It was sold, in 1598, by Nicholas Hare, to Nicholas Barnsley and his wife, and William Barnsley: in 1630, it belonged to George Nodes, and, soon after, became the property of Thomas Cundry, esq. first secretary in the treasurer's remembrancer's office in the exchequer; from whom it descended to his son, grandson, and great grandson, all named Thomas: the last of them was of Deulish, near Dorchester, who, in 1730, sold this manor to Mr. Israel Hammond, who was succeeded by James Hammond, esq.; it now belongs to William Dent, esq.

Chingford
Hatch.

Chingford Hatch, a capital messuage at the bottom of the road below Friday Hill, was the possession of John Branche, mentioned under the last manor.

The lordship and manor of Borohouse is mentioned as lying partly in this and partly in the parishes of Tottenham and Edmonton. It was granted, by queen Elizabeth, to William Doddington, in 1559, and is supposed to be the farm called Burwoods.

Scotts
Mahews.

Scotts Mahews, alias Brindwoods, is an estate in this parish, holden of the rector, remarkable on account of the ceremonial which takes place on every alienation, in which the owner, his wife, and man and maid servant, attend singly on horseback, and at the parsonage the owner does his homage, and pays his relief, as follows: he blows three blasts with his horn; carries a hawk on his fist, and his servant has a greyhound in a slip; both for the use of the rector that day. He receives a chicken for his hawk, a peck of oats for his horse, and a loaf of bread for his greyhound. They all dine, after which the master blows three blasts, and they all depart.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a small building of flint and stone; it has a nave, south aisle and chancel, with a low tower; and the whole edifice is covered with ivy.*

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to eight hundred and thirty-seven, and, in 1831, to nine hundred and sixty-three.

Inscrip-
tions.

* There are some old monuments of the Leigh, and also of the Boothby family: and a handsome monument for John Heathcote, esq. erected in 1795; and for Esther, wife of William Cooke, esq. in 1803; and a tombstone bears an inscription, sacred to the memory of John Hamilton Moore, hydrographer,





ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN THE HALF HUNDRED OF WALTHAM.

CHAP.
XIV.

R. Rectory.

V. Vicarage.

P. C. Perpetual Curacy.

† Discharged from payment of First Fruits.

D. Donative.

Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Chingford, R.	Essex.	Rob. B. Heathcote..	....	£14 5 5	J. Heathcote, esq.
Epping, V.	Pecul.	H. L. Neave.....	1824	17 13 4	H. J. Conyers, esq.
Epping, C.	Pecul.	C. W. Pitt .....	....	Not in Charge	Trustees.
Nasing, V.	Essex.	Ch. Dyson	1828	†14 5 5	Lord Chancellor.
Waltham Holy cross D	Pecul.	W. M. Whalley.....	....	Not in Charge	Trustees.

CHAPTER XIV.

HUNDRED OF BECONTREE.

BECONTREE is on the south-western extremity of the county, where it joins Middlesex, in the vicinity of the metropolis: it is bounded southward by the Thames; westward by the river Lea; and on the north and east extends to Waltham, Ongar, and the liberty of Havering. The name in Domesday, Beuentreu, is believed to have arisen from a beacon situated near the site of the windmill at Woodford. This district includes about five hundred acres of marsh land, which, though separated from Kent by the Thames, yet belong to that county, a circumstance probably owing to the river having changed its course: formerly there was a chapel and houses on this ground, as appears from foundations yet visible.

Becontree
hundred.

This hundred, with the privilege of baronial authority, anciently belonged to the nunnery of Barking, and after the dissolution of monasteries, passed to the crown, where it remained till it was purchased, by sir Thomas Fanshaw, to hold in as ample a manner as any abbess of Barking had held it: by that family it was afterwards sold to sir William Humphreys, knt. and bart. whose grand-daughter Ellen, and her husband, Charles Gore, esq. of Tring, sold it, with a capital estate, to Smart Lethieullier, esq.

There are in Becontree the following parishes: Leyton, Walthamstow, Wansted, eminent for his knowledge in nautical science, who departed this life October 31, 1807, aged seventy-two years.

This parish receives three pounds yearly from Robert Rampston's charity: an annuity of five pounds four shillings was left by Thomas Boothby, esq.; and the income of an acre and a half of land, by an unknown benefactor, both to be distributed in bread. In the village there is a day and a Sunday school, supported by subscriptions.

Benc-
factions.

BOOK II.

and Woodford, within the forest: and Barking, Dagenham, East Ham, West Ham, Little Ilford, and the hamlet of Great Ilford, partly in and partly out of the forest.

The town of Barking is named in records Berking, Berchingas, Barkyng, Bercingum,* Berkingum, Berchigense monasterium,† Bercingis, Bertingis,‡ Berekingum,§ &c. derived, as has been supposed, from the Saxon Beopce, a birch tree, and ing, a meadow: but the more general opinion is, that this name is a corruption of Bupgh-ing, the fortress in the meadow, some considerable entrenchments being yet visible in the fields adjoining a farm called Uphall, about a quarter of a mile north from the town.¶

This town is conveniently situated where the river Rodon meets a creek or inlet of the Thames; and its inhabitants, actively engaged in the fishing business, employ a considerable number of vessels which communicate with Billingsgate and other parts of the metropolis;¶ they also convey vegetables, particularly potatoes, to the London markets. These are supplied in great abundance from the surrounding country, which is richly cultivated and highly productive.**

The Rodon was made navigable in the year 1730, and employed for the conveyance of coals, lime, and other articles, to the neighbouring district.

The town-hall is over the market-house, an ancient wooden building, erected in the time of queen Elizabeth; to which is attached a small prison. There is a fair on

* Bedæ Hist. Eccl. l. iv. ch. 6.

† Decem Scriptores, col. 412, 440.

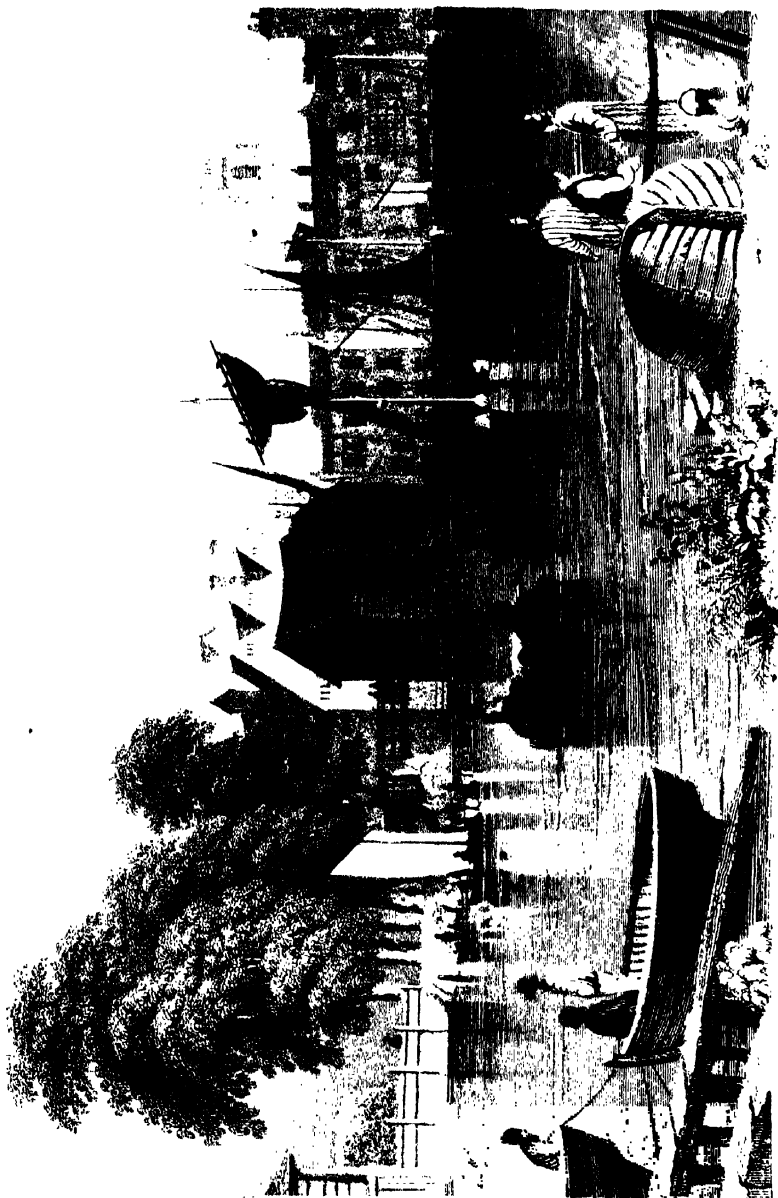
‡ Gul. Pictav. p. 208, and Orderic. Vital. p. 506, apud Duchesne Hist. Normann. Scriptores.

§ W. Malmesb. ed. 1596, f. 134.

¶ The form of this entrenchment "is not regular," but tending to a square; the circumference measures seventeen hundred and ninety-two yards: the inclosed area contains forty-eight acres, one rood, and thirty-four perches. On the north, east, and south sides, it is single trenched; on the west side, which runs parallel with the river Roding, and at a short distance from it, is a double trench and bank: on the south side is a deep morass, but on the north and east sides the ground is dry and level, the trench, from frequent ploughing, is almost filled up. At the north-west corner there was an outlet to a very fine spring of water, which was guarded by an inner work, and a high keep, or mould of earth.—*From a History of Barking, written by Mr. Lethicullier, quoted by Lysons.*—"Mr. Lethicullier thinks that this entrenchment was too large for a camp; his opinion, therefore, is, that it was the site of a Roman town; but he confesses that no traces of buildings have been found on the spot, and accounts for it on the supposition that the materials were used for building Barking Abbey, and for repairing it after it was burnt by the Danes. As a confirmation of this opinion he relates, that upon viewing the ruins of the abbey church, in 1750, he found the foundation of one of the great pillars, composed in part of Roman bricks; a coin of Magnentius was found also among the ruins."—*Lysons's Environs*, vol. iv. p. 58.

¶ There is a toll-free quay for the accommodation of the craft; and the fishery gives subsistence to above nine hundred men and boys, on board vessels of from forty to sixty tons burthen, constructed with wells for the purpose of preserving the fish alive, which consist chiefly of turbot, soles, and cod, taken on the Scottish and Dutch coasts.

** From a recent survey, it appears that this parish contains ten thousand two hundred and twenty-nine acres of enclosed land; about six hundred acres of this is cropped with potatoes, and one hundred and fifty with cabbages, &c.: the portion of Hainault forest within the parish is only one hundred and thirty-nine acres.



the 22d of October, and a weekly market is authorised to be holden on Saturday, the tolls of which, with the market-place, were granted to Samuel and John Jones, from whom they were conveyed to Thomas Fanshaw, esq.; and, in 1679, sir Thomas Fanshaw gave the profits of the market and the fair to the poor of the parish; but the market is now nearly, or altogether, discontinued. The town is within the jurisdiction of the county magistrates, and a court-leet is held, at which the constables and officers of the town are appointed; and a court is held under the lord of the manor every third Saturday, to try causes of trespass, and to recover debts under forty shillings. The lord being paramount, claims the deodands of this hundred.

Of the ancient abbey, from which this place first rose to importance, though formerly a rich and flourishing establishment, scarcely a vestige now remains: the following historical account of it is narrated by Lysons, from the manuscript of Mr. Lethienllier:—

Barking
Abbey.

“ Barking Abbey, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is said to have been the first convent for women established in this kingdom, founded about the year 670, in the reign of Sebba and Sighere, kings of the east Saxons, by St. Erkenwald, bishop of London, in compliance with the earnest desire of his sister Ethelburgh, who was appointed the first abbess. The founder was nearly allied to the Saxon monarchs, being great grandson of Uffa, the first king, and second son of Annas, the seventh king of the East Angles: he was also the first bishop who sat in the see of London after the building of St. Paul's church by king Ethelbert. The monastic writers speak in very high terms of his piety and zeal in the discharge of his episcopal functions, and tell us, that when he was grown weak through age and infirmities, he was carried about in a litter from place to place throughout his diocese, constantly teaching and instructing the people till his death, which happened about the year 685, whilst he was on a visit to his sister Ethelburgh, at Barking. Great disputes arose (as we are informed by the monkish annalists) between the nuns of Barking, the convent of Chertsey, and the citizens of London, about the interment of his body, each claiming an exclusive right to the bones of the venerable prelate. Nor was this dispute terminated without the intervention of a miracle, which declared in favour of the Londoners, who having obtained the body, bore it off in triumph: on the road they were stopped at Ilford and Stratford by the floods: upon this occasion the historians record another miracle, by which a safe and easy passage was procured for the corpse of the holy man and his attendants. The bishop was canonised, and frequent miracles were said to be wrought at his tomb. So highly was his memory revered, that in the reign of Stephen, a magnificent shrine was erected against the east wall of St. Paul's cathedral, into which his bones were translated with great solemnity; and vast sums were expended, from time to time, in adorning it with gold, silver, and precious stones.

“ The time of the death of Ethelburgh, the abbess, is uncertain; but she was buried Hildelitha

BOOK II.

at Barking, and received the honour of canonisation. Her successor was Hildelitha, who had been sent for by the founder out of France, to instruct his sister Ethelburgh in the duties of her new station; she also obtained a place among the Romish saints. After her, several abbesses of the royal blood succeeded; Oswyth, daughter of Edithfrith, king of Northumberland; Ethelburgh, wife to Ina, king of the West Saxons, who was canonised; and Cuthburgh, sister of king Ina, who had been a nun at Barking in the time of St. Hildelitha: she died about the middle of the eighth century. Nothing more is known of this monastery till the year 870, when it was burnt to the ground by the Danes, and the nuns either slain or dispersed. It lay desolate about one hundred years, being within the territories which were ceded by Alfred to Gormund, the Danish chief. About the middle of the tenth century it was rebuilt by king Edgar, as an atonement for his having violated the chastity of Wulfhilda, a beautiful nun at Wilton, whom he appointed abbess: he restored the monastery to its former splendour, and endowed it with large revenues. After Wulfhilda had presided over the convent many years, some dissensions arose between her and the priests of Barking, who referred their cause to Elfrida, the widow of Edgar, and mother of Ethelred, whom they requested to eject Wulfhilda, and assume the government herself; a proposal to which she readily assented. Wulfhilda retired to a religious house which she had founded at Horton, in Devonshire; and the queen putting herself at the head of this monastery continued to preside over it, as the historians inform us, twenty years; at the end of which term, a violent sickness seizing her at Barking, she repented of the injury she had done to Wulfhilda, and re-instated her in her former situation. Wulfhilda, seven years afterwards, died at London, whither she had retired to avoid the Danish army, then invading England, and was enrolled among the Romish saints, being the fifth abbess who had received the honour of canonisation. At the time of the Norman conquest, Alfgiva, a Saxon lady, who had been appointed by Edward the confessor, was abbess.

Wulfhilda

Alfgiva.

“The historians, Carte and Brady, relate, that William the Conqueror, soon after his arrival in England, retired to Barking Abbey, and there continued till the fortress he had begun in London was completed: hither, they say, whilst preparations were making for his coronation, repaired to him, Edwin, earl of Mercia, Morcar, earl of Northumberland, and many others of the nobility and great men of the land, who swore fealty to him, and were reinstated in their possessions. Others (among whom are Simon Dunelmensis, and Roger Hovedon) affirm, that Berkhamstead was the place of the king’s abode; but there are strong circumstances in favour of the former opinion. Berkhamstead castle was not built till after the manor was given to earl Morton by the Conqueror; yet, admitting that a mansion might have previously stood there, fit for a royal residence, the proximity of Barking to London certainly rendered that place a more convenient station for the new monarch.

“After the death of Alfgiva, Maud, queen of Henry the first, assumed the government of the convent; and it is not improbable this connexion with Barking induced her the more readily to build the bridge at Bow. Maud, wife of king Stephen, followed the example of her aunt, on the death of Agnes, the abbess, in 1136; but she soon resigned the charge to Adeliza, sister of Paris Fitz-John, a baron of considerable note, who was slain in a battle near Cardigan. During her government, Stephen, with his queen, and the whole court, were entertained for several days at the abbey. Her successor was Mary, sister to Thomas à Becket, archbishop of Canterbury, whose appointment is said to have been intended, by Henry the second, as an atonement for the injustice he had done her family, who were banished the kingdom as a punishment for the prelate’s insolence.

CHAP.
XIV.Queen
Maud

Adeliza.

Mary
à Becket.

“From the time of Mary à Becket, but few remarkable occurrences are connected with the history of this abbey. The most material, as it affected the interest of its inmates, was a great inundation, which happened about the year 1376, and broke down the banks of the Thames at Dagenham. It is first mentioned in a record of the ensuing year, when the convent petitioned that they might be excused from contributing an aid to the king, at the time of a threatened invasion, on account of the expenses they had incurred in endeavouring to repair their damages. The plea was allowed; and the same reasons were generally pleaded with success, as an exemption from contributions of a like nature. In 1380, and 1382, the abbess and convent stated that their income was then diminished four hundred marks per annum, by inundations, and that they had scarcely sufficient left to maintain them. In 1409, they stated, that they expended two thousand pounds to no purpose, in endeavouring to repair their banks. The next year it was set forth, that the revenues of the convent were sunk so low, that none of the ladies had more than fourteen shillings per annum, for clothes and necessaries. In consequence of these several petitions, they obtained frequent exemptions from taxes, and other burthens; writs to impress labourers to work at their banks, and licence to appropriate certain churches to the use of the convent. Eleanor, duchess of Gloucester, retired to Barking abbey, after the murder of her husband in 1397, and died there in 1399; having, as some say, professed herself a nun. During the time of the queen dowager, Catharine de la Pole, Edmund and Jasper Tudor, her sons by Owen Tudor, were sent to be educated at this abbey, a certain salary being allowed to the abbess for their maintenance.

Inunda-
tion.Duchess
of Glou-
cester.

“The nuns of Barking were of the Benedictine order. The abbess was appointed by the king till about the year 1200, when, by the interference of the pope, the election was vested in the convent, and confirmed by the royal authority. The abbess of Barking was one of the four who were baronesses* in right of their station; for being possessed of thirteen knights’ fees and a half, she held her lands of the king by a barony,

* The other three were, Wilton, Shaftesbury, and St. Mary, Winchester.

BOOK II.

and, though her sex prevented her from having a seat in parliament, or attending the king in the wars, yet she always furnished her quota of men, and had precedency over the abbesses. In her convent she always lived in great state; her household consisted of chaplains, an esquire, gentlemen, gentlewomen, yeomen, grooms, a clerk, a yeoman-cook, a groom-cook, a pudding-wife, &c.*”

Dissolu-
tion.

Barking abbey was surrendered to Henry the eighth in November, 1539, when an annual pension of two hundred marks was granted to Dorothy Barley, the last abbess, and various smaller pensions to the nuns, who were then thirty in number. The site of the conventual buildings, with the demesne lands of the abbey, were granted, by Edward the sixth, to Edward Fynes, lord Clinton, who the next day conveyed them to sir Richard Sackville. Since that period they have passed through various families to the widow of the late Joseph Keeling, esq. The manor of Barking, which probably formed part of the original endowment of the abbey, continued in the crown from the dissolution till the year 1628, when Charles the second sold it to sir Thomas Fanshaw, for the sum of two thousand pounds, reserving a fee-farm rent of one hundred and sixty pounds, since payable to the earl of Sandwich. The manor became the property of Edward Hulse, esq. in right of Mary, his wife, niece to the late Smart Lethieullier, esq. who obtained it by purchase in the year 1754.

The abbey church, and conventual buildings, occupied an extensive plot of ground, though hardly any remains are now standing. The site of the former may be seen just without the north wall of the present church-yard. Mr. Lethieullier, by employing persons to dig among the ruins, procured a ground plan† of this edifice, from which it appears to have been constructed on the general plan of cathedral churches. The whole length, from east to west, was one hundred and seventy feet; the length of the choir, sixty feet; the length of the transept, one hundred and fifty feet; the breadth of the nave and side aisle, forty-four feet; the breadth of the transept, twenty-

* “ Among the Cottonian manuscripts in the British Museum, is one entitled ‘ The Charge longynge to the office of *Cellaress* of Barking,’ in which is fully stated the sums she was to collect, with the nature and quantity of the provisions she was to lay in, and the manner and proportion in which they were to be distributed. Among other things, she was to ‘ bake with clys on Schere-Thursday,’ (the Thursday after Lady-day;) to provide a ‘ peece of whete, and three gallons of milk for frimete on St. Alburgh’s (Ethelburgh’s) day; three gallons of gude ale for besons; marybones to make white wortys; cripsis and crum-kakes at Shroftyde; conies for the convent at Shroftyde; twelve stubbecks, and nine schaft eles, to bake on Schere-Thursday; one potel tyre for the abbess the same day, and two gallons of red wyne for the convent; half a goose for each of the nuns on the feast of the Assumption, and the same on St. Alburgh’s day; for every lady a lyverey of sowse at Martinmas, a whole hog’s sowse (consisting of the face, feet, and groin) to serve three ladies. She was to pay to every lady in the convent nine pence a year for ruschew-silver; (money to buy butter;) two pence for her cripsis and crum-kakes at Shroftyde; three halfpence a week for ey-silver (egg-money) from Michaelmas to Allhallows day; from that day till Easter seven farthings a week; and from Easter to Michaelmas three-halfpence.’ The whole has been printed in Dugdale’s *Monasticon*.”—*Lysons’ Environs*, vol. iv. p. 69

† Since engraved for *Lysons’ Environs*, vol. iv.

eight feet; the diameter of the base of the columns that support the roof, was eight feet and a half. Among the ruins an ancient fibula, and a gold ring, have been found; both of which (the former from its legends, the latter from the Salutation of the Virgin Mary, engraven on it) seem to have belonged to some of the inmates of the convent.*

At the entrance of Barking church-yard is an ancient square embattled gateway, with octagonal turrets, also embattled, rising from the ground on each side. The entrance arch is pointed; above it is a niche, with a canopy and pinnacles. The apartment over the entrance is, in an old record, named, "the chapel of the Holy Rood lofte atte-gate, edified to the honour of Almighty God, and of the Holy Rood." Against the wall in this chapel is a representation of the Holy Rood, or Crucifixion, in alto-relievo. This structure is generally called Fire-bell Gate, from its anciently containing a bell, which Mr. Lysons imagines to have been used as a curfew-bell.

The parish is seven miles in length, from north to south; and four from east to west: it is divided into the four wards of Barking, Great Ilford, Chadwell, and Ripple. This district is supposed to have formed part of the demesne lands of the Saxon kings, previous to the founding of the nunnery, to which the whole of these lands were appropriated,† as appears from Domesday, except twenty-four acres, which Goscelin Loremar, lord of Little Ilford, had stolen; with two hides and three carucates, holden by three soldiers, or knights.

The capital manor of Barking remained in the crown, till the reign of king James the first; when it was sold to Thomas Fanshaw,‡ esq. with the manors of Jenkins and

Manor of
Barking.

* "In the Harleian collection, at the British Museum, is an ancient survey of the manor of Barking, without date, and imperfect; in which the services due from the inferior tenants to the abbess and convent are stated. One of these, named Robert Gerard, was, among other services, to gather a full measure of nuts, called a *pybot*, four of which should make a bushel; to go a long journey on foot, once a year to Colchester, Chelmsford, Ely, or the like distances, on the business of the convent, carrying a pack; and other shorter journeys, such as Brentwood, &c. maintaining himself upon the road. He was to pay a fine for the marriage of his daughter, if she married beyond the limits of the manor, otherwise to make his peace with the abbess as well as he could; and if his daughter should have a bastard child, he was to make the best terms that he could for the fine called *Kyldwyte*: it appears also, that he could not sell his ox, fed by himself, without the abbess's permission. Some of the tenants were obliged to watch and guard thieves in the abbess's prison."

† Stevens's History of Abbeys, vol. i. p. 528.

‡ The Fanshaw family were originally of Fanshaw-park, in Derbyshire, and their more immediate ancestors of Ware-park, in Hertfordshire: three of them were successively remembrancers of the exchequer. In 1560, the manor of Dengey, in Essex, was granted, by queen Elizabeth, to Thomas Fanshaw, esq. who was succeeded by the right hon. Thomas, by Charles viscount Fanshaw, Simon Fanshaw, esq. &c. Thomas Fanshaw, esq. also purchased the capital manor of Barking, with Jenkins and Malmaynes, of king James the first; which, with estates in Dagenham, were, in 1567, in the possession of Henry Fanshaw, and Dorothy his wife; and of Anne lady Fanshaw, whose son was sir Thomas Fanshaw, knt. who died holding the same possessions, in 1632; he had also other estates here and elsewhere; his son, Thomas, was created K.B. at the coronation of king Charles the first, and dignified with the titles of baron Fanshaw and viscount Dromore, in 1661; whose eldest son and successor, sir Thomas, left two daughters his co-

Fanshaw
family.

BOOK II. **Jenkins.** **Malmaynes.*** The manor-house of Jenkins stood a mile and a half north-east from the church: it was holden of the abness, in 1496, by sir Hugh Brice and Elizabeth his wife; and in the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth, belonged to sir William Hewett, lord mayor of London, whose daughter, Anne, conveyed it to her husband, Edward Osborne, ancestor of the dukes of Leeds. In 1567, it belonged to Martin Bowes, esq. from whom it passed to Henry Fanshaw, esq. and Dorothy his wife, who were the same year ordered to deliver it to John Bullock and Edmund Morrans, to form a trust, as it is supposed; for the estate remained, with the capital manor, in possession of the Fanshaw family and their descendants, till it was purchased by sir William Humphreys, kn. and bart., lord mayor of London in 1715, who died in 1735; and was succeeded by his son, sir Orlando Humphreys, who, by Ellen his wife, only child of colonel Robert Lancashire, had three sons, who all died before him, and two daughters, co-heiresses. Mary, the eldest, had three husbands, of whom the third was Thomas Gore, esq. member of parliament for Bedfordshire, uncle to Charles Gore, esq. of Hertfordshire, who had married Ellen Wintour Humphreys, the younger sister. In 1748, this estate was purchased by Smart Lethieullier, esq. of Aldersbrook: there also went with it the farm called Malmaynes.

heiresses, of whom Susannah, the eldest, was married to the hon. Baptist Noel, of Luffenham, in Rutlandshire, member of parliament for that county in 1685. A collateral branch of this family arose from the marriage of John, son of William Fanshaw, esq. of Ware-park, to Alice, eldest daughter of sir Thomas Fanshaw, of Jenkins, in Barking, by whom he had John, auditor of the duchy of Lancaster, who died in 1697: by his wife Mary, daughter of John Coke, of Melborn, in Derbyshire, he had three sons and one daughter: his son, Thomas Fanshaw, esq. was father of Thomas, who, in the year 1745, married Anne, daughter of sir Crisp Gascoigne.—Arms of Fanshaw: Or, a chevron between three fleur-de-lis, sable.

* Barking Hall. Mrs. Elizabeth Thomas, a literary lady, in her Life written by herself, about a century ago, speaks of Barking Hall as belonging to her great grandfather, Richard Shute, esq. member of parliament for the city of London. She describes it as an antique building, situated at the end of a long avenue of elms, and of a castellated form, but erroneously supposes it one of the baron's castles. She relates that Mr. Shute made at this seat one of the prettiest and most commodious bowling greens that had ever been seen; and king Charles the first, who was partial to that amusement, having paid Mr. Shute a visit, was so well pleased with his entertainment that he would frequently lay aside his state, and resort thither with only two or three gentlemen as his attendants. They generally played high (says our authoress) and punctually paid their losings; and though Mr. Shute often won, yet the king would at one time set higher than usual, and having lost several games left off: "And it please your majesty," said Mr. Shute, "one thousand pound rubbers more, perhaps luck may return." "No, Shute," replied the king, laying his hand gently on his shoulder, "thou hast won the day, and much good may it do thee, but I must remember I have a wife and children." Mrs. Thomas adds, Mr. Shute was in such favour with the king, that he was made deputy-lieutenant of the ordnance, master of St. Cross's hospital, and had other places, of the value altogether of four thousand pounds per annum. He was one of the members who were sent to wait on the king at Nottingham, when, failing to persuade his majesty to return, and determined not to bear arms against him, he retired with his family to Hamburgh, where he died. Mrs. Thomas informs us that his delightful seat at Barking, which had been honoured with the royal presence, became, in a few years afterwards, through the mismanagement of his heir, a ploughed field.



The mansion of Loxford manor is a mile north from the church; and that of Wangay is on the southern side of Chadwell Heath. In 1562, the estate was sold by Thomas Powle to Thomas Pouncet; whose son, William Pouncet, dying in 1591, left his son Henry his heir, who died in 1627, having previously sold it to Francis Fuller, clerk of the estreats in the exchequer; who, on his death in 1636, left Francis Osbaldeston, son of his sister Barbara, his heir; on whose death, without issue, in 1648, his widow, Alice, was married to Robert Bertie, fifth son of Robert, earl of Lindsey: she died in 1677, and he in 1701, when the estate passed to Henry, brother of Francis Osbaldeston, the first husband; his son, Francis Osbaldeston, leaving, on his decease, only two daughters: they sold Loxford and Wangay to John Lethieullier, esq. who settled them both on his son, Smart Lethieullier, esq.

CHAP.
XIV.
Loxford
and
Wangay.

The manor-house of Fulkys was in the town of Barking, but has been pulled down: and the estate was united to that of Jenkins: it formerly belonged to sir Thomas Audeley, to William Severn, and to the Fanshaw family.

Fulkys.

The manor of Porters belonged to sir Thomas Lucas, to Thomas Fanshaw, esq. in 1635, and afterwards became the property of Walter Vane Fletcher, esq., and of Mr. Newman; of whose representatives it was purchased by the present proprietor, James Scrutton, esq.

Porters.

The manor of Westbury belonged to sir William Denham, who died in 1548; and the next possessor was Edward Breame, esq., succeeded by his brother Arthur; who sold this estate to Thomas Fanshaw, esq., from whose family it passed to Blackburne Poulton, attorney-at-law, on whose decease, in 1749, it was conveyed to his nephew, Poulton Alleyne; from whom it descended to Joseph Keeling, esq. The house was at the east end of the town of Barking.

Westbury

The mansion of Eastbury is a large ancient building of brick,* with octangular towers and ornamented chimneys; it is a mile distant from Westbury, eastward, on the road to Dagenham, and overlooking the marshes. It belonged to sir William Denham; and in 1557, to John Keele, who that year sold it to Clement Sisley. It afterwards became the property of three sisters, of the name of Weldon, and of the Sterry family: it is now in the occupation of Mr. William Scott.

Eastbury.

Gayseham's Hall is three miles north from the church. It was holden of the nunnery, in the time of king Edward the third, by Thomas de Sandwich, provisor to the prince of Wales: it passed afterwards to sir William Denham, and to the Breame family; of whom it was purchased by Vincent Randal, whose son Edward held it at the time of his decease, in 1579, and left his son and heir, Vincent. After-

Gayse-
ham's
Hall.

* There is a prevalent tradition, that this was the place where the conspirators concerned in the gunpowder treason held their secret meetings, and where, from the top of the great tower, they had hoped to enjoy the savage pleasure of witnessing the result of their machinations in the blowing up of the British parliament.

BOOK II.

wards it belonged to Hugh Hare; of whom it is supposed to have been purchased by Gabriel Wight, esq. who died in 1621; he was of Little Ilford, and his son was Henry Wight, esq. William Hibbet, esq. is now possessed of a moiety of Gayseham's Hall, in right of his wife, as heiress of the Wights, and is entitled to the reversion of the other in fee.

Uphall.

The house belonging to the manor of Uphall is a mile north from the church, near Loxford, on the east side of the Rodon. Of the successive proprietors of this estate, after Morgan Phillips, the first on record are, Wesselin Webblynge, who died in 1611; his kinsman, Nicholas Webblynge; William Billingsley, whose widow Elizabeth sold it to Mr. Edward Seabrooke, from whom it passed to his descendants. Richard Benyon, esq. the present possessor of Uphall, succeeded his brother Edward; he is grandson of governor Benyon.

Stone Hall.

Stone Hall is near Red-bridge, on the river Rodon; after having been successively the property of sir John Rainsford, sir William Denham, of the Breame family, and of John Bales in 1578, it was conveyed to Robert Devereux, earl of Essex; and his mother, the lady Lettice, with her husband sir Christopher Blount, sold it to sir George Carew, in 1589; and, in 1598, it was conveyed back again by Henry, earl of Northumberland, to the said sir Christopher, lord Mountjoy; who sold it, in the same year, to John Crook; and, in 1636, it became the property of sir Henry Mildmay, and passed, with the manor of Wansted, to earl Tilney.

Clay Hall.

This manor is supposed to have been named from the soil, or from the family of De la Clay, who had possessions in Essex in the time of Edward the third. There was formerly a capital mansion, with a chapel, but both have been taken down, and a farm house erected, where they were pleasantly situated on the site of a hill, four miles north of the church, and a mile from Woodford bridge. This estate was holden under the abbess of Barking, by the Colt family, from 1475 to 1615: it next belonged to sir Christopher Hatton, who had a chapel consecrated here in 1616. He was succeeded by sir Thomas Cambel, knt. son of Robert Cambel, of Foulsham, in Norfolk; sheriff of London in 1600, and, in 1609, lord mayor: the estate remained in possession of his descendants till Anne, the only daughter of sir Harry Cambel, conveyed it to her husband, Thomas Price, of Westbury, in Buckinghamshire, whose son, Cambel Price, was the next owner of this estate; succeeded by Peter Eaton, esq. of Woodford.*

Claybury.

Claybury is a capital mansion, with lands, a mile from Clay Hall, and near Woodford bridge: in 1553, it belonged to sir Ralph Warren; in 1729, became the property of — Page, esq., and was afterwards the estate and seat of John Goodere, esq. It belonged afterwards to the Harvey family, and, by marriage, was conveyed to

* A lease of Clay Hall, which had been taken by Mr. Dowson, was purchased by the late James Hatch, esq. of Claybury, and is now vested in his representatives.

Montague Burgoyne, esq. who sold it to James Hatch, esq. in 1789, who greatly improved the grounds and enlarged the estate.

CHAP.
XIV.

Claybury Hall is a handsome modern building, with a projecting portico in front, situated on high ground, near Woodford bridge, where the surrounding country presents admirable prospects of rich meadow lands and forest scenery: the park abounds with fine timber. The present owner of this elegant seat is J. R. H. Abdy, esq.

The mansion and estate of Aldborough Hatch is situated south east from Clay Hall, and north north-east from the church. It belonged to Bartholomew Barons, of London, who died in 1548; his son Thomas was his successor, and died in 1626; the succeeding proprietor being John Lockey, who, at the time of his death in 1713, had mortgaged this estate to James Colebrook, esq., and he and one of Mr. Lockey's legatees joined in conveying a moiety of it to Richard Guise, esq. who died in 1752; and colonel Jory, who had the other moiety, dying in 1725, it was conveyed by his niece, Frances Fouch, to her husband, Martin Bladen, one of the lords of trade. He died in 1746, as did his widow in 1747; and she left the estate to her cousin, Anne Hodges, who was married, first, to Warner Perkins, attorney-at-law, and, in 1737, to John Lambert Middleton, brother of sir William Middleton, bart. of Belsay castle, in Northumberland.

Ald-
borough
Hatch.

The moiety of Aldborough Hatch estate which belonged to the family of Guise is now vested in the rev. Mr. Stevens: the house which was occupied by Mr. Brome is in the tenure of James Grellier, esq. Sir Charles Miles Lambert Monk, bart. (son of sir William Middleton) has five sixths of the other moiety; the remaining portion belongs to sir George Cooke, bart. of Wheatley, near Doncaster. The greater part of Aldborough House has been taken down, but is yet a good, handsome building, at present the seat of William Pearce, esq.*

Great Geries, near Aldborough Hatch, was sold by Critophel Van Denburgh, esq. (who had taken down the greater part of the old mansion) to Mr. Carstairs. The house is now in the occupation of William Harrison, esq. Little Geries is the property of Mr. Charles Johnson; Fulwell Hatch belongs to his brother, Mr. George Johnson.†

Great
Geries.

Newbury Grange is on the north side of the London-road: it belonged to Thomas

* The original erection was by Mr. Bladen, in 1730, at the expense of fourteen thousand pounds.

† In Hainault forest, in this neighbourhood, there was a few years ago a remarkable oak, named Fairlop Oak, whose age was so great, that, as Mr. Gilpin has observed, in his remarks on Forest Scenery, "The tradition of the country traced it half way up the Christian æra." The stem was rough and fluted, and measured about thirty-six feet in girth; the branches overspreading an area of three hundred feet in circumference. In the month of June, 1805, this celebrated tree having been accidentally set on fire, the trunk was considerably injured, and some of the principal branches wholly destroyed. There is a print of it as it appeared after that occurrence, given in the Gentleman's Magazine for July, 1806; and a part of it has been converted into the beautiful carved pulpit of St. Pancras' New Church, in London.

BOOK II. Styeh, esq. who died in 1656, and to sir Richard Styeh, bart. who died in 1725, without issue male: it next belonged to sir Thomas Webster, and to his son.

Dunshall is on the same side of the road, near the King's Waterings, in Watery-lane, not far from Chadwell Street, and Chadwell Heath; it formerly belonged to John Hyde, esq. of Sundridge.

Great
Ilford.

Great Ilford is a hamlet and chapelry, and one of the wards of Barking parish. It is on the banks of the Rodon, where the road from London to Chelmsford crosses that river, twenty-two miles from Chelmsford, and seven from London. The village forms a respectable street, with many good houses. A handsome new church has been erected here, which was opened in 1831; and there is also a chapel of ease, and two chapels for dissenters; and there is an hospital here, which was founded toward the close of the reign of king Henry the second, or the commencement of that of Richard the first, by Adeliza, abbess of Barking: it consisted of a secular master, a leperous master, and thirteen brethren, lepers; two chaplains, and one clerk. In 1346, Ralph Stratford, bishop of London, drew up a set of statutes for this institution, ordaining, among other things, that every leper, on his admission, should take an oath of chastity and of obedience to the abbess and convent of Barking. After the suppression, queen Elizabeth granted the site and possessions to Thomas Fanshaw, esq. his heirs and assigns, conditionally that they should appoint a master, and keep the chapel in repair, together with apartments for six paupers, each of whom should receive an annual pension of two pounds five shillings. The hospital estate thus charged, descended to Thomas Fanshaw, viscount Dromore, who, in 1668, granted a lease for one thousand years to Thomas Allen, gent. from whom it passed through various families; and, in 1739, was purchased by sir Crisp Gascoigne, from whom it has passed to his descendants. The hospital occupies three sides of a small quadrangle; the apartments of the pensioners are on the east and west sides, and the chapel between them on the south: the latter has undergone various alterations and repairs, but appears from its general style to have been erected as early as the fifteenth century; its length is about one hundred feet, its breadth little more than twenty.

Withfield.

This manor belonged to lord chancellor Audeley, who sold it, in 1541, to Robert Cowper, and it afterwards passed through various proprietors, of the families of Grey, Stansfield Cooke, Randal, Tadcastle, and Aston, to sir Nicholas Coote, in 1617, and to lady Coote, in 1636: afterwards it was purchased by John Brewster, who died in 1677, and whose son and heir, Augustine, died in 1708, leaving his two sisters his co-heiresses, who sold this estate to John Bamber, M.D. who left it for life to Walter Jones, who had married his daughter; the reversion to Bamber Gascoigne, esq.; afterwards it belonged to Charles Raymond, esq. of Valentines.*

* Withfield, or Wyfield House, lately belonged to Robert Raikes, esq. and is now, by purchase from him, the property of John Marmaduke Grafton Dare, esq. This is supposed to have originally been the manor-house, but is now perfectly distinct from it.

The mansion of the manor of Cranbrooke is half a mile from Ilford, on the north side of the road to London. It was holden of the manor of Barking, and belonged to sir Henry Palavicini, who died in 1615, whose brother Tobias was his heir: sir Charles Montague, knt. died possessed of it in 1625, leaving three daughters, his co-heiresses. Sir James Northfolke, serjeant-at-arms to the House of Commons, was the next owner; succeeded by sir William Boreham, knt. whose lady had it for life; and whose nephew, Henry Davis, and Henry Gibbs, his sister's husband, were, after her death, to enjoy this estate for a term of years, according to a decree in chancery; it passed afterwards to John Ward, to — Raymond, esq. to Andrew Moffatt, esq. and to his grandson, Andrew Moffatt Mills, esq. Afterwards it became the property of W. M. Raikes, esq. of whom it was purchased by J. M. G. Dare, esq.

C H A P.
XIV.

Cran-
brook.

The capital mansion of Valentines, about four miles from the church, was originally built by James Chadwick, esq. son-in-law to archbishop Tillotson; it afterwards became the property of Robert Surman, esq. who enlarged and much improved the house and grounds.* This seat afterward belonged to sir Charles Raymond, bart. whose co-heiresses sold it to — Cameron; and, on the death of his son, Donald Cameron, esq. in 1797, it was the same year sold to Robert Wilkes, esq. of whom it was purchased in 1808, by the present owner, Charles Welstead, esq.†

Valen-
tines.

Bifrons was formerly a handsome residence, with a park, belonging to Bamber Gascoigne, esq. a quarter of a mile from the church, on ground rising a considerable height, commanding a view of the Thames from Greenwich to Purfleet, with the Kentish hills and shore. It is now in the possession of Mr. Thomas Stayner: the park and marsh belonging to this estate are occupied by lord Somerville, for his Merino sheep.

Bifrons.

Highlands is a seat near Valentines, formerly belonging to sir Charles Raymond, whose heirs sold it to earl Tilney; here a handsome mausoleum, intended by sir Charles for the burial-place of his family, forms a conspicuous object at a great distance.

Highlands

The parochial church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a large handsome building of stone, with a nave, chancel, a south aisle, and two north aisles, running parallel to each other the whole length of the building, which is one hundred and fifteen feet;

Church.

* In the house there were some valuable pictures, particularly the original of Southwark Fair, by Hogarth; and some fine carvings by Gibbons, but these have been taken away and dispersed. The gardens were originally laid out with elegance and taste, and a vine in the hot-house, of the black Hamburgh kind, planted in April 1758, has been known to produce upwards of four hundred weight of fruit per annum: the stem is above twenty inches in girth, and the branches extend above two hundred feet. The profits on the grapes have in some years been supposed to amount to three hundred pounds.

† In a field behind Valentines, a stone coffin, containing a human skeleton, was found in the year 1724, and in the same field was discovered, in 1746, an urn of coarse earth, filled with burnt bones.—*Gilpin's Forest Scenery*, p. 150. *Lysons' Environs*, vol. iv. p. 87, from *Mr. Lethieullier's MSS.*

BOOK II. the breadth sixty-five, and the height twenty-six feet. A strong stone tower rises to the height of seventy-five feet, and contains eight bells.*

This church being appropriated and belonging to the nunnery, two vicarages were ordained, with separate endowments, one named "St. Margaret's of Berking on the south;" the other dedicated to and named from the same saint on the north: these were consolidated and united sometime after the year 1395, and continued in the gift of the convent till the dissolution.

In 1549, the rectory and church, with the advowson of the vicarage, were granted to Robert Thomas, and others, to hold of the honour of Hampton Court: in 1556, the vicarage was in the patronage of Thomas Baron, or Barnes, of whom it was purchased by sir William Petre, William Cook, esq. and William Napper, gent. executors of the will of William Pouncett, of this parish, and settled by them in 1557, on the warden and fellows of All Soul's College, Oxford.

Chantries There were chantries in this church, at the altar of the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ; at the altar of king Edward; and at the altar of St. Ethelburga.

St. Anne's Chapel. St. Anne's chapel, in this parish, was granted, with Cockerell's Grove, to Richard Robson, in 1572.

Inscriptions. * Near the steps of a small chapel, at the east end of the north aisle, a marble slab bears some remains of an inscription, supposed by Mr. Lethicullier to have been to the memory of Mauritius, who was made bishop of London in 1087. Mr. Lysons admits it to be of that age, but imagines it to have commemorated the interment of some other person, who was buried during the bishop's lifetime. The remains of the inscription are as follows: "**** AURICH EPI**** LONDONENSIS ALFGIVE ABBE BE**."

There is a monument to the memory of William Pouncett, esq. justice of the peace, who died the 8th of March, 1553.

On the south wall of the chancel a monument is erected to the memory of "that right worthy knight," sir Charles Montague, brother of the first earl of Manchester, who died in 1625, aged sixty-one: his figure is represented sitting in a tent, with his head reclined upon a desk, on which are his helmet and gauntlets: the entrance is guarded by sentinels, and a page is in attendance with his horse.

Among numerous others, there are inscriptions for John Fanshaw, esq. who died December 10th, 1699, aged thirty-eight. The hon. Robert Bertie, who died in 1701, aged eighty-four; he was a great benefactor to this parish. Hon. Elizabeth Bertie, wife of Robert, died January 1, 1712. Captain John Bennet, sen. who died 8th of May, 1706, aged seventy, and Mary his wife, who died 2d of January, 1711, aged seventy-four; and their only son, captain John Bennet, who died Jan. 3, 1716, aged forty-six: he left one hundred pounds to the poor here, and three hundred pounds to the poor of his native town of Pool, with several other benefactions. Sir Orlando Humphreys, of Jenkins, in this parish, bart. died 14th June, 1737, aged fifty-nine years; his monument is of excellent workmanship, with a bust. Captain Joshua Banaster, born in this parish, distinguished for his bravery in king William and queen Anne's wars: he commanded his majesty's yacht the Charlotte, thirteen years, and died March 28, 1738, aged sixty-three years. He was always a generous benefactor to the poor, and gave fifty pounds to them in his lifetime, and fifty pounds at his death.

Charities. A free-school was founded here in 1649, by sir James Cambell, knt. of Woodford; and there is also a national school for teaching and clothing poor children: also an infant school; and two endowed almshouses, one of six, the other four tenements; with other charities, too numerous for insertion.

In 1821, the population of Barking parish amounted to six thousand three hundred and seventy-four, *viz.* the town ward, two thousand five hundred and eighty; Chadwell, four hundred and sixty-one; Ilford, two thousand nine hundred and seventy-two; Ripple, three hundred and sixty-one: in 1831, the population had increased to eight thousand and thirty-six, *viz.* the town, three thousand four hundred and four; Chadwell, seven hundred and thirty-three; Ilford, three thousand five hundred and twelve; Ripple, three hundred and eighty-seven.

DAGENHAM.

From Barking on the west this parish extends eastward to the liberty of Havering, and is bounded on the south by the river Thames: it is eighteen miles in circumference. The village is two miles and a half from Romford, on the high road from Barking to Raynham: distant from London thirteen miles.

Dagen-
ham.

Dagenham is not mentioned in Domesday, being included in the lordship of Barking. There are four manors.

This manor, in the time of king Edward the third, was holden of the abbess of Barking, by Edmund de Northtoft, whose daughters, Emma and Florence, were his co-heiresses; and, after the dissolution of monasteries, it passed to the crown, and was granted to sir Richard Alibon, knt. judge of the King's Bench, who sold it to Thomas, eldest son of sir Henry Audeley, on whose death, in 1697, it was conveyed to his sister Katharine's son, Henry Barker, esq.

Dagen-
ham
Manor.

John de Cockermouth gave this estate to the abbess of Barking in 1330, which, after the dissolution, was retained by the crown till it was granted, by queen Elizabeth, in 1565, to sir Anthony Brown, chief justice of the Common Pleas, who, dying in 1567, left Wistan Brown, esq. his brother John's grandson, his heir; who, in 1574, conveyed it to John Bullock, esq. from whom it passed successively to Thomas Fanshaw, in 1574; to Thomas Nutbrown, in 1589, and the same year to William Megges; in 1601, to John Swinnerton: in 1685, it had become the property of sir Thomas Darcy, bart. of Great Bracksted, who sold it, in 1690, to William Clark; who, by will, left it to his wife Anne for life; to be afterwards conveyed to William Watkins and Thomas Johuson. The manor-house is a mile south south-west from the church.

Cockers-
mouth.

The mansion of Parselowes is a mile and a half north-west from the church, the name does not occur in the records till 1568, when it was conveyed by Martin Bowes, to Rowland Hayward, alderman of London, and Thomas Wilbraham; and it afterwards belonged to William Fanshaw, esq. who died in 1635; and from whom this estate passed to his descendants.

Parsel-
lowes.

The mansion of this manor is about half a mile north from Parselowes, and derives its name from the family of Valence, earls of Pembroke. It was holden of the abbess of Barking by Agnes de Valence, who died in 1309; her heir was Adomar de Valence,

Valence.

BOOK II. earl of Pembroke; and the next recorded possessor was sir Nicholas Coote, of Withfield, in Barking. In 1676, Thomas Bonham, esq. died holding this estate, which was purchased by Henry Mertins, esq. who died in 1725, and was succeeded by his son, John Henry Mertins, esq.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is a handsome structure, which was thoroughly repaired in 1806; it consists of a nave, chancel, and south aisle, with a stone tower.

The church, and the manor of Dagenham, originally belonged to the abbey of Barking, and passing to the crown on the dissolution, were granted to sir Anthony Brown, who died in 1567, and have since passed to various proprietors.*

In 1821, there were one thousand eight hundred and sixty-four, and, in 1831, two thousand one hundred and eighteen inhabitants.†

Inscriptions.

* Among the monumental inscriptions in this church are the following: On an elegant monument of grey and white marble, is one for sir Richard Alibon, knt. advanced by king James the second to the dignity of a judge, though he was a catholic; being the only individual of that communion who had been advanced to so high a dignity during the preceding one hundred and fifty years: he was of distinguished learning and ability, and died Aug. 22, 1688, aged fifty-three.—For Thomas Bonham, esq. lord of Valence, a good scholar, and not a bad poet. He died May 3, 1676.—For Jacob Uphill, who died June 10th, 1662, aged thirty-six: his son Jacob, standard-bearer to William and Mary, to queen Anne, and to George the first: he died Feb. 26th, 1717, aged fifty-nine, and left, after the decease of his sister, ninety pounds per annum to the poor of Dagenham parish. Susanna, the sister of the said Jacob, died January 20, 1725, aged sixty-five.—For John White, gent. who died Feb. 2, 1673. He left to seven poor widows one dozen of bread weekly for ever.—For Mr. Thomas Waters, who died March 6, 1756, aged seventy-three. He left one hundred pounds, the interest of it to be appropriated for ever to placing out poor children to school. Other benefactions are, forty shillings yearly to the poor, by William Armstead: twenty pounds to the charity-school, by James Symmonds, vicar here: and fifty pounds to the poor, by Henry Mertins, in 1725. There is a well-endowed free-school here, founded by Mr. William Ford, in 1828, for thirty boys and twenty girls.

Dagenham breach.

† In the banks of the Thames, at Dagenham, a very destructive breach was formed, by the violence of the wind and tide, in the winter of the year 1707. It was occasioned by the blowing-up of a small sluice, that had been made for the drainage of the land-waters, and being at first neglected, an opening was formed, in some places twenty feet deep, and one hundred yards wide. Through this channel the rush of waters was so great, that upwards of one thousand acres of rich land, in the levels of Dagenham and Havering, were overflowed, and nearly one hundred and twenty acres washed into the Thames; where a sand-bank was formed about a mile in length, and reaching nearly half-way across the river. Various attempts were made by the landholders to repair the breach, but after several years' ineffectual labour, the design was relinquished as impracticable. The danger, however, resulting to the navigation of the river, occasioned an application to parliament, and an act was obtained to continue the work, a small tax being at the same time laid on every vessel coming into the port of London, for the purpose of defraying the expense. The business was then undertaken by one Boswell, on a contract for sixteen thousand five hundred pounds, but, after the trial of various schemes, he was found unable to complete the undertaking, and a new agreement was entered into with captain Perry, who had been employed by the czar Peter, in building the city of Veronitz upon the river Don. This gentleman commenced his work in April, 1718, at which period the breach had been worn into several large branches, like the natural arms of a river, by the force of the reflux water from the marshes on every turn of the tide. The longest of

EAST HAM.

CHAP.
XIV.

This parish lies east from West Ham, and anciently formed part of the endowment of Westminster abbey, to which it was confirmed by Edward the confessor, under the name of two hides in Hamme: and it appears, that these two parishes were not at that time divided, but went by one common name; holden by the abbey in two parcels, at the time of the survey. At what time the house was deprived of this possession is not known; but in the reign of king Henry the third, this lordship and also West Ham belonged to the family of Montfichet; which, on the death of Richard de Montfichet, the last heir male, in 1258, became the portion of Margery, one of his three co-heiresses, married to Hugh de Bolbec, whose successors here were Walter de Bolbec, Walter, Hugh, and a second Hugh, who left four daughters, his co-heiresses: Philippa, married to Roger de Lancaster; Margaret, whose first husband was Nicholas Corbett; and who was married, secondly, to Ralph, son of William de Grimsthorp; Alice, married to Roger or Walter de Huntercombe; and Maud, whose husband was Hugh de la Vall: the partition of the estate among these necessarily caused its dismemberment.

John, son and heir of Roger de Lancaster, in 1307, gave lands here, with the advowson of the church, to the abbot and convent of Stratford; and afterwards, in 1319, he and Annora his wife, granted to the same house the reversion of this manor, after their decease; which, at the dissolution passing to the crown, was granted, by king Henry the eighth, to Richard Breame, esq. who died in 1546, leaving his son

these branches extended upwards of a mile and a half, and was in some places between four hundred and five hundred feet broad, and from twenty to forty feet deep. By extraordinary exertions, by driving dove-tail piles in a particular manner, and by various other expedients, captain Perry at length succeeded in stopping the breach, but not before the works had been three times nearly destroyed and washed away, by the strength and rapidity of the tides. The expense of this important undertaking amounted to forty thousand, four hundred and seventy-two pounds, eighteen shillings, and eight pence three farthings, only twenty-five thousand pounds of which was allowed by the original contract; but the sum of fifteen thousand pounds was afterwards voted by parliament to captain Perry, who was thus ungenerously left to defray a part of the charges, and without any remuneration for upwards of five years' anxiety and care. Within the embankment is yet a pool of between forty and fifty acres, where the earth had been carried off by the tide: and near it is a small circular thatch building, called Dagenham Breach House, kept by the subscriptions of gentlemen, who form parties to fish in the pool at the proper season. While the works were carrying on, a very extensive stratum of Moorlogg, or rotten wood, of various kinds, was found, about four feet beneath the surface of the marshes. This stratum was about ten feet in depth, and appeared to consist of whole trees and brushwood, with but very little intermixture of earth. Among the trees were many of yew and willow; the former were mostly undecayed. Some oak or horn-beam was also found, together with large quantities of hazel nuts. Several stags' horns were met with, lying about the Moorlogg.—*From the account published by captain Perry, in 1721, and Philosophical Transactions, No. 335.* Captain Perry, the undertaker of this great work, had been several years employed by Peter the great, czar of Muscovy, in his works at Veronitz, a city on the river Don. He died 11th February, 1733.

Manor of
East Ham.

BOOK II. Edward an infant, whose heir, on his decease in 1558, was his brother Arthur; whose son and successor was Giles Breame. The manor afterwards belonged to the Allington family, of whom it was purchased by lady Kempe, relict of sir Nicholas, and was inherited by the son of her former husband, sir Thomas Draper, bart. of Sunninghill, in Berkshire; on whose death, in 1703, his daughter Mary conveyed it to her husband, John Barber, esq. whose son John sold it, with several other estates in this parish, to John Henniker, esq. of West Ham. East Ham Hall, the manor-house, is near the church. This manor now belongs to lord Henniker, whose family seat in Essex is Stratford House.

East Ham
Burnels.

The manor-house of East Ham Burnels is near the London road. Its name is derived from Robert Burnel, bishop of Bath and Wells, who had this estate in 1286, and whose great nephew, Edward lord Burnel, died possessed of it in 1316. His sister Maud was his sole heiress, who was married, first, to John Lovel; and, secondly, to John de Handlo: by both of these she had several children, but, as is supposed, none of them survived their parents, for, on their decease, their successor was sir Nicholas Handlo, the brother of John, who took the surname of Burnel. His son, sir Hugh Burnel, was his successor, whose heirs were his cousins, Joice, wife of Thomas Erdyngton, jun.; Katharine Burnel; and Margery, wife of Edmund Hungerford. Sir Edmund Hungerford died in 1484, in possession of the manors of East Ham Burnels, West Ham Burnels, Hell House, and Stansted Montfichet, which he held of Francis lord Lovel; and was succeeded by his son, Thomas Hungerford: they belonged to sir John Hungerford in 1506, succeeded by John Hungerford, esq. in 1559, having been intermediately holden by William Lacon, or Laxon, who died in 1556, whose heiress was Johanna, widow of Thomas Wanton. The next owner was sir John Hungerford, who died in 1581; Anthony was his son and heir: a moiety and purparty of this estate was holden by Roger Beckwith, who died in 1586, whose co-heiresses were his two sisters, one of whom was married to sir George Harvey, knt.; and the other to Henry Slingsby, esq. Sir G. Harvey died in 1605, and the lady Frances, his widow, in 1627, holding this estate till her decease; and her eldest daughter, Margaret, was married to William Mildmay, esq. son and heir of sir Thomas Mildmay, knt. of Barnes, by Elizabeth, sixth daughter of sir Nicholas Coote, knt. of Dagenham: their son, sir Thomas, and the lady Coote, were the co-heirs of the said Margaret; and the estate continued in the family of Mildmay, of Marks, till it was sold, by Carew Mildmay, esq. to Henry Edwards, esq. who conveyed it to John Gore, esq. and a moiety of it was afterwards purchased by sir Robert Smyth, bart. whose grandson, sir Robert Smyth, left, by will, his estates here and elsewhere, to the unborn son of his great nephew, sir Trafford Smyth, who died unmarried, and was succeeded by his nephew, sir Robert Smyth. The other moiety of this estate was at that time the property of Stephen Comyns, esq. The manor was sold by sir

Robert to William Bentham, esq. in 1798, and by him conveyed in the following year to William Holland, esq. from whom, in 1807, it was conveyed to Edward Holland, esq. and from the latter, in 1810, it passed to Henry Hinde Pelly, esq. the present proprietor, who is possessed also of the other moiety, which was purchased of Robert Comyn, esq. by Mr. Bentham, in the year 1798, since which time they have continued to be united.

Greenstreet is a hamlet in this parish, a mile north-west from the church, where there is a fine old mansion, formerly the occasional residence of king Henry the eighth and his queen, Anne Boleyn:* it belonged to sir Thomas Holcroft, from whom it was conveyed to sir Thomas Garrard, bart.; from whom it descended to sir Jacob Garrard Downing, bart. and was afterwards the property of — Barnes; from whom it was conveyed to William Morley, esq. the present owner.

Green-
street.

The church of East Ham, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, is supposed from its form to be of considerable antiquity. Like the churches of the primitive Christians, most of which were originally Pagan temples, or Basilicæ, it consists of a sanctuary, an ante-temple, and a temple; or, as they are now called, a nave and two chancels. The upper chancel, or sanctuary, is semi-circular at the east end, and has narrow pointed windows: on the south side is a piscina, with a double drain, divided by a column, forming two plain pointed arches, between which is a bracket for a lamp. On the south wall of the lower chancel are several Saxon arches, with zig-zag ornaments, which appear to have extended to the nave.†

Church.

In 1821, the number of inhabitants in this parish was one thousand four hundred and twenty-four, and, in 1831, one thousand five hundred and forty-three.

* In Lysons's *Environs*, an erroneous statement has been admitted, that "there is a tradition that queen Anne Boleyn was confined in the Tower at Greenstreet, but an inspection will at once shew that it has been erected since that time." This supposed modern appearance of the Tower is accounted for by the circumstance of Mr. Morley having repaired it forty years ago, previous to which the top was entirely demolished. It is believed to have been originally erected about three hundred years ago, an opinion which singularly coincides with an anecdote related by Mr. Morley, the substance of which is that Anne Boleyn was betrothed to a young nobleman who died. About ten months after his death, the king demanded her hand; she, as was the custom, requested to complete the twelvemonth of mourning for her lover, to which Henry agreed, and for her amusement built the tower in question, from which she had a fine view of the Thames from Greenwich to below Gravesend. The room in the third story of the tower was formerly hung with leather, richly decorated with gold, which Mr. Morley's predecessor avariciously, almost wickedly, burnt, to collect the gold, which was sold for thirty pounds. The lead from the roof was also sold, which Mr. Morley has now covered with copper. "It is said in one of the *Histories of England*, that Anne Boleyn was taken from Greenstreet to Greenwich, and from thence to the Tower." There is also a letter in the hand-writing of Henry, preserved either at Oxford, Cambridge, or the British Museum, dated from Greenstreet. Mr. Morley states, "I have lived upon this estate fifty years, and my predecessor, Mr. Barnes, more than fifty."—*Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. 91, part i. p. 219.

† Lysons's *Environs*, vol. iv. p. 148.

There is a handsome monument behind the communion table, to the memory of Edmund Nevill, lord Latimer, and (reputed) seventh earl of Westmoreland of that family; the effigies represent the earl and

Inscrip-
tions.

BOOK II.

WEST HAM.

West Ham

This large parish extends from East Ham westward to the river Lea, in the vicinity of London; and southward to the Thames: it is computed to be twenty miles in circumference, and is divided into the four wards of Church Street; Stratford Langthorne, extending along the high road to Bow Bridge; Plaistow, about a mile east from the church; and Upton, a mile north-east from the church; each of these wards has a churchwarden and overseer.

The village is large and pleasantly situated, four miles from Whitechapel: it had formerly a market, the charter for which was procured in the year 1253, by Richard de Montfichet; and the resumption of this privilege would be highly advantageous to the parish and neighbourhood.*

The lands of this parish, in the time of the Confessor, belonged to Alestan and Leured, two freemen; and, at the survey, to Robert Gernon and Ralph Peverel, and were divided into seven manors.

Manor of
West Ham

The manors of West Ham, East-west Ham, Wood Grange, and Plaiz, are included in the part which belonged to Robert Gernon, whose posterity took the name of Montfichet. This lordship was given to the abbey of Stratford, and at the dissolution passing to the crown, it formed part of the dowry of Katharine of Portugal, queen of king Charles the second, and was on that account called the Queen's manor: previous to her death, in 1705, the king had granted a ninety-nine years lease of it to the hon. George Booth, at a reserved rent, which was afterwards remitted or released; and he, in 1733, granted a portion of the demesnes, and a farm called Wood Grange, to John Grigsby and Abraham Crop, in trust for sir John Blount.

his lady, Jane, countess of Westmoreland. There is a poetical inscription of considerable length on the earl, as also on his daughter, the "right vertuous, faire, and noble ladie Katharine." And of Jane his wife.

Several other distinguished personages have been interred in the church and church-yard, and among them the renowned antiquary, Dr. Stukeley, who, as appears by the register, was buried in March, 1765. The spot for his burial-place was chosen by himself, during a visit to the rev. Mr. Sims, a former vicar of this parish: according to his own request, the turf was laid smoothly over his grave without any monument.—A monument has been put up on the east wall of the nave for Inyr Burgess, esq. thirty years paymaster to the East India company; it also commemorates his son-in-law, who died in 1803.—Also buried here, December 8, 1804, sir John Dick, bart. of Roehampton, aged eighty-four: knight of the imperial Russian order of St. Anne, of the first class. The Scotch baronetcy of Dick of Braid became extinct by his death. Dorothy, lady Foley, was buried here, Jan. 19th, 1804, aged eighty-four.

Giles Breeme, esq. who died in 1621, has a monument on the north side of the chancel; he left the greater part of his estate for building an almshouse, and endowing it with forty pounds a year; and in other charities.

* This parish contains four thousand five hundred acres, of which one thousand nine hundred and seventy is arable, two thousand five hundred and thirty meadow-land, or marsh, about five hundred cropped with potatoes, and two hundred with turnips: soil gravelly, except the marshes, and some loamy land in the neighbourhood of the forest.

He also granted a lease of the fines of Stratford ward, with power to hold a court baron, for their collection: this right was afterwards conveyed to earl Tilney, but he reserved to himself and successors in the lease, the other quit-rents and royalties. The other parts of this manor passed from G. Booth to Mrs. Azaria Penny, to — Smart, esq., and to — Brown, who sold his interest in them to John Henniker, esq.*

The lease of the manor of West Ham having expired in 1804, was purchased of the crown in fee, in 1805, by James Humphries, esq. and George Johnstone, esq. M.P., who are the present proprietors. Lands in this manor descend according to the custom of gavelkind.

Hugh de Playz, who married Philippa, third sister and co-heiress of the last Richard de Montfichet, had this estate, which has retained his name; and the name of Plaistow is believed to have the same derivation: the manor-house is a mile east-north-east from the church. In 1553, king Edward the sixth granted this manor, with East-west Ham, to sir Roger Cholmley, whose co-heirs, Elizabeth, wife of Christopher Kenne, esq. and John Russell, esq. enjoyed it after him. A moiety and purparty of it belonged to Roger Beckwith, who died in 1586, leaving his sister Frances, wife of George Harvey, and Henry Slingsby, his co-heirs. It afterwards passed from the Harveys, or Mildmays, of Marks, together with East Ham Burnels and West Ham Burnels, to the Smyth family, of Upton; from whom they were conveyed to Henry Hinde Pelly, esq. Playz.

After the Burnel family, this manor passed to Handlo, Lovel, Hungerford, Beckwith, Harvey, and to the Mildmay family, of Marks, and was sold by Carew Mildmay, esq., with Playz and East Ham Burnels, to Henry Edwards, esq., by whom they were sold to John Gore, esq. who conveyed them to John Blount, bart. a South-sea director, and being seized by the company, were sold to sir Robert Smyth, bart. of Upton, in this parish, who thereby became possessed of the manors of East Ham Burnels, West Ham Burnels, East-west Ham, and Playz; from whom they descended to his heirs and successors, except a moiety of them, which became the property of Stephen Comyns, esq. and they were afterwards purchased by Henry Hinde Pelly, esq. West Ham Burnels.

Bretts is not mentioned in records till the time of Edward the fourth, when John Ferrers, esq. in 1478, died in possession of the manor of "Brettys in Easthamme." The next possessor was Edward earl of Warwick, heir of George Plantagenet, duke of Clarence: but the said Edward being afterwards executed for treason, in 1499, all his estates were forfeited to the crown: in 1519, this estate was settled on queen Katharine of Arragon, by king Henry the eighth: in 1576, it was granted by queen Elizabeth to Peter and Edward Gray; and the same year it was conveyed to sir Bretts.

* Sir John Henniker, bart. who, in 1800, was created lord Henniker, of the kingdom of Ireland, had a seat in this parish, at Stratford-grove, where he died, April 18, 1803. It is now the property and occasional residence of his son, the present lord Henniker.

BOOK II.

Thomas Henneage; from whom it passed, in 1583, to Roger Townshend, esq., and was sold by him to Edward de Vere, earl of Oxford, who died possessed of it in 1604, and it was sold by his widow in 1609; after which it became the property of Henry Woollaston, esq., whose heir was his son Henry. It afterwards belonged to Francis Beauchamp, esq. of Cornwall.

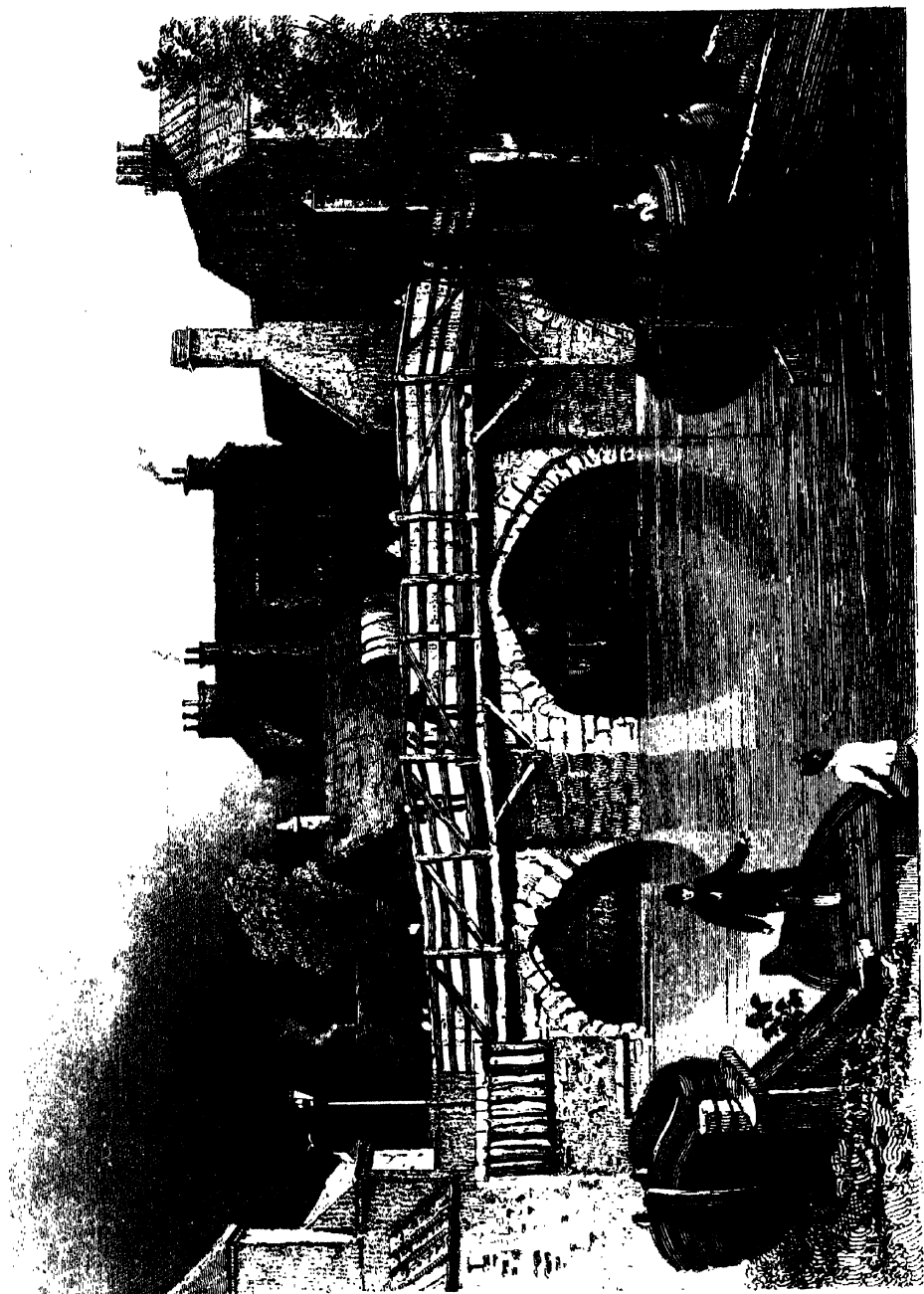
Chab-
hams, or
Cobhams.

This reputed manor is understood to have been taken from several other manors: in 1417, sir Adam Fraunceys died, holding it of Hugh Burnel, and of the abbot of Stratford; and his co-heiresses were his daughters, Agnes (wife of sir William Porter), and Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Charleton; the third part of the estate being retained by his widow, on her decease, in 1444, came to the said Agnes, who died in 1461: her heir was her sister Elizabeth's son, sir Thomas Charleton, who had also other considerable possessions in this county. He died in 1465, leaving his son and heir, sir Richard Charleton, a minor, who was afterwards attainted of high treason, for being of the party of king Richard the third, and his forfeited estates granted, in 1487, by king Henry the seventh, to sir John Rysley; who, dying without issue, in 1512, they again passed to the crown; and, in 1513, were granted to William, afterwards sir William Compton, kn., who, dying in 1528, left his son, Peter Compton, only seven years old. In 1589, the notorious Tipper and Dawe procured a grant of this and other lands; but in 1596, this manor was granted, by queen Elizabeth, to Thomas Spencer and Robert Atkinson, who, in the following year, conveyed it to Richard Wiseman, who died in 1618, leaving his son, sir Robert, his heir. Afterwards it belonged to Mr. Hyat and to Mrs. Jane Hyat. The house is on the left-hand side of the road from Stratford to Low Leyton, a mile north-west from the church. This manor now belongs to lord Henniker.

Stratford.

The populous hamlet of Stratford Langthorn is the last village of Essex on the great London road, and situated on the borders of the river Lea, where it is crossed by the celebrated Bow Bridge, said to have been the first arched-bowed bridge in this part of the country: it consists of three arches, and bears evident marks of antiquity, yet has been so often repaired in the course of many centuries, that it seems impossible to ascertain how much of the original structure now remains. Stowe, Leland, and other writers, are agreed in attributing the first erection of it to Matilda, or Maud, the queen of king Henry the first.* On the river in this neighbourhood and in Strat-

* Stowe relates the following particulars of its foundation: "This Matilda, when she saw the forde to be dangerous for them that travelled by the old foord over the river of Lue (for she herself had been well washed in the water), caused two stone bridges to be builded, of the which, one was situated over Lue, at the head of the town of Stratford, now called Bow, because the bridge was arched like a bow; a rare piece of work; for before that time the like had never been seen in England. The other over the little brooke, commonly called Chavelse bridge. She made the king's highway of gravel between the two bridges; and gave certain manors to the abbess of Berking; and a mill, commonly called Wiggon, or Wigen mill, for the repaying of the bridges and highwaie; but afterwards Gilbert de Montfichet founded



ford, are numerous flour-mills and manufacturing establishments, print-works, distilleries, chemical works, &c., many of which are on a very large scale. About sixty years ago, a new cut was made across the meadows and low grounds, by which a saving is made of several miles in the course of the navigation to Ware, in Hertfordshire. The town itself is greatly improved of late years, and a handsome new church has been erected, conveniently situated where the roads to Romford and Woodford form two sides of a triangular inclosure. It is in the style of architecture of the thirteenth century, having a lofty nave, with north and south aisles, and a steeple at the angle; the windows are narrow and pointed. The interior is light and graceful, the timbers of the middle roof exposed, the tiebeams resting on grotesque corbels of stone: at the west end is a gallery and organ-loft, beneath which there is a handsome stone font in a recess. As a work of art, this building is thought to be equal to any erected under the church commissioners.

The abbey of Stratford Langthorn was founded in the year 1135, by William de Montfichet, for monks of the Cistercian order, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary and All Saints.* Its founder endowed it with his manor of West Ham, and it had also other extensive possessions, which, on the dissolution, became the property of the crown;

Stratford
abbey.

the abbey of Stratford in the marishes, the abbot whereof, by giving a piece of money, purchased to himself the manors and mill aforesaid, and covenanted to repair the bridges and way, till at length he laid the charge upon one Hugh Pratt, who lived near the bridges and causeway, allowing him certain loaves of bread daily; and by the alms of passengers, he kept them in due repair; as did his son William after him, who, by the assistance of Robert Passelow, the chief justice in the time of Henry the third, obtained these tolls:—of every cart carrying corn, wood, coal, &c. one penny; of every one carrying tassel, two pence; and of one carrying a dead Jew, eight pence; and put up a bar on Lockebreggs: but Philip Basset and the abbot of Waltham having broke the bar rather than pay the toll, the bridges and gateway remained unrepaired. In the mean time, Eleanor, queen of king Henry the third, caused them to be mended at her own charge, by William, the keeper of her chapel; and William de Carleton kept them afterwards in repair, till a new agreement between the abbess and abbot took place for that purpose."—*Stowe's Annals*, ed. 1631, page 130.

The tenants of the abbey lands appear to have been unwilling to fulfil this agreement; for, in 1691, a cause was tried by an Essex jury at the bar of the King's Bench; the King *versus* Buckeridge and others, for not repairing a highway, *ratione tenuræ*, by reason of their holding, or tenure, between Stratford and Bow. The evidence for the king was, that Maud, the queen of Henry the first, built this bridge, &c. (to the tenure before mentioned); that at the dissolution, the Stratford abbey lands, being vested in the crown, were granted to sir Peter Mewtis, who held them charged with the repairing of this highway; and from him, by several mesne assignments, they came to the defendants; who (the facts being proved) were ordered to abide by the tenure.—*Morant*, vol. i. p. 20.

* "This house," says Leland, "first sett among the low marshes, was after, with sore fludes, defacyd, and removd to a cell or graunge, longynge to it, caulyd Burgestede, in Estsex, a mile or more from Billerica. These monks remainid at Burgestede untill entrete was made that they might have some help otherwyse. Then one of the Richards, kings of England, toke the ground and abbaye of Stratford into his protection, and re-edifenge it, browght the foresayde monks agayne to Stratford, where among the marsches they reinhabytyd."—*Itinerary*, vol. vii. p. 9.

BOOK II. but having been since divided, have passed through various families. The abbot was summoned to parliament in 1307; and in 1335, John de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex, high constable of England, was buried in the abbey. After the dissolution, its possessions were granted, by Henry the eighth, to sir Peter Mewtis, or Meautis, who had been ambassador to the court of France. In 1633, Henry Meautis, esq. a descendant of sir Peter, conveyed the site of the abbey, with the abbey mills, and two hundred and forty acres of land, to sir John Nulls.

Margaret, the unfortunate countess of Salisbury, whom the remorseless Henry the eighth caused to be beheaded in her old age, without the slightest evidence of her criminality, appears to have resided within the precincts of the abbey at the time of its dissolution. The foundations of the house were dug up and removed some time ago, on which occasion a small onyx seal was found, with the impress of a griffin set in silver, on which is the following legend: "Nuncio vobis gaudium et salutem;" supposed to be the priory seal of one of the abbots. The site of the precincts was moated, and contained about sixteen acres: the abbey stood about three furlongs south-west from the present church; and till lately there was a gateway, and other remains, which have been pulled down; so that of this ancient building there does not remain one stone upon another. On the forest side of the town of Stratford, are the hamlets of Maryland Point and the Sand Pits; one facing the road to Epping, the other that to Chelmsford.

Church. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a spacious edifice, with a nave, chancel, side aisles, and a square tower, seventy-four feet in height.*

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to nine thousand, seven hundred and fifty-three; and, in 1831, to eleven thousand, five hundred and eighty.

LEYTON.

Leyton. The Saxon name of this parish is Lygan, also written Lygean, which, with the word tun, is descriptive of it, as the town by the river Lea, or Ley; in records the name is written Leituna, Leintuna, Lochetun, Layghton, Layton, Leighton, and Leyton.† That part which is on low ground near the meadows is called Low Leyton, and the upper part on the road to Epping is named Leytonstone, as is supposed from there

* There are some fine old monuments in the church; many of which are for persons of celebrity: the charities are very numerous and of great amount. There is a charity school for ten boys, instituted in 1723, the endowment of which has been enlarged to admit forty boys, and twenty girls, who are now clothed and apprenticed. Also a school for forty girls, established by Mrs. Bonnel, in 1761, who left three thousand pounds for that purpose.

† Mr. Morant supposes this name may be from the British Lhuch, a lake; the low grounds from this place to the Thames having anciently formed an extensive reservoir of water, till it was partly drained by king Alfred, in the year 896.—*Saxon Chron. and other Historians; and Stukeley's Account of Rich. of Cirencester*, p. 45, 82.

having been a Roman milliary stone formerly placed there. Leyton parish is computed to be fourteen miles in circumference.*

CHAP.
XIV.

The village, from its situation on low ground, named Low Leyton, consists chiefly of respectable and capital houses, embosomed in trees. Besides the church, there is a chapel† of ease (at Leytonstone) and two places of worship belonging to dissenters. Distance from Shoreditch church five miles, and the same from White-chapel.

Harold, Tosti, Suene Suart, Ulric, Alsi, one freeman, and four sochmen, held the lands of this parish in the time of Edward the confessor; and, at the survey, they belonged to Robert, son of Corbutio; the abbot of Westminster; Peter de Valoines; Hugh de Montfort; and Robert Gernon. In the most ancient records there are stated to have been, as at present, three manors.

The chief manor belonged to the abbey of Stratford, but it is not known who gave them this possession: they had also other benefactions in this parish. After the dissolution, in 1545, it was granted, by Henry the eighth, to Thomas lord Wriothesly, lord chancellor of England, who sold it to Ralph Warren, lord mayor of London; and he dying in 1553, left Richard his son and heir, on whose death in 1597, he was succeeded by his sister the lady Joanna's son and heir, Oliver Cromwell, esq. of Hinchbrooke. The estate afterwards passed successively to Edward Rider; to his son of the same name in 1608, and to sir William Rider, knt. and lord mayor of London, who, in 1610, built the upper chancel of the church: he died in 1611, and left his two daughters his co-heiresses.‡ Afterwards this manor became divided, and was holden in portions by several owners, till, in 1703, the greater part of the estate was purchased by David Gansel, esq. who continued lord of the manor and patron of the vicarage till his death in 1753; and was succeeded by his son William, afterwards general Gansel, whose heirs sold it to John Pardoe, esq. who also purchased a portion of the estate, which had become the property of the corporation of Lincoln in 1783: in 1794, the manor-house was disposed of, and a new one erected.§ The present owner is John Pardoe, esq. grandson of the last purchaser of the estate.||

Manor of
Leyton.

* The parish contains seventeen hundred acres, of which one hundred and fifty is marsh, two hundred and fifty waste, in the forest, twenty-five occupied by nurserymen and market gardeners, about two hundred cropped with potatoes. Soil gravelly, abounding with fine springs.

† Leytonstone chapel, after having been closed a great many years, was opened in 1754.

‡ Arms of Rider: Azure, three crescents, or.

§ The house, with a paddock and a portion of land, was purchased by sir John Strange, master of the rolls, who improved it with additional buildings, and made it a delightful seat: after his death it was bought by Thomas Bladen, esq. whose heirs sold it to Nathaniel Brassey, esq. of whom it was purchased by Thomas Lane, in 1796.

|| The portion of this parish which at the survey belonged to Peter de Valoines, was given by his great grand-daughter, Gunnora, to the nunnery of Haliwell, in Middlesex, and, after the dissolution, passing to several proprietors, has been incorporated with other estates; as has also other lands which belonged to the priory of the Holy Trinity, in London.

BOOK II.

Marks.

The manor of Marks belonged originally to the priory of St. Helen's in London, and became the property of the Withipole family in the time of Henry the eighth, who retained possession till sir Edmund Withipole and his wife Frances sold it, in 1601, to sir James Altham, one of the barons of the exchequer in 1607, who died in 1617, and was succeeded by his son, sir James Altham, knt. from whose descendants it passed to the Gansel family: it now belongs to Mr. Pardoe. The mansion is a farm-house.

Ruckholt.

The Saxon name of this manor is hroc holt, *i. e.* rook-wood. The mansion was a mile from the church. Bumsted and Fraunceys are the most ancient owners on record. It belonged to William, son of Robert de Bumsted Steeple, in 1284; and it was conveyed from Philip, son of Robert Bumsted, to Adam Fraunceys, in 1360, and was retained by his descendants till sir Adam Fraunceys, who held the estate of earl Warren, dying in 1417, left his two daughters his co-heiresses.* of whom Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Charlton, left her son, sir Thomas Charlton, who succeeded to this estate, which, on his death in 1465, became the inheritance of his son, sir Richard Charlton; on whose attainder for high treason, Henry the seventh granted Ruckholt to sir John Rysley, in 1487, which again reverting to the crown on his death, without issue, in 1512, was given, by Henry the eighth, to sir William Compton, knt. who died in 1528, and whose only son, Peter Compton, esq. left in wardship to Cardinal Wolsey, dying under age in 1543, William, grandson of sir William, was his successor, who, in 1592, sold the estate to Henry Parvis, merchant, who died in 1593, leaving a son named Gabriel, and other children; and whose widow (Elizabeth Colston) was re-married to sir Michael Hickes, secretary to sir William Cecil, lord Burghley, who having purchased Ruckholts of the Parvis family, made it the place of his residence, and died there in 1612;† and, in 1720, sir Harry Hickes, his descendant, sold this estate to Benjamin Collier, esq, from whom it was conveyed, by purchase, to earl Tilney. The house, which was many years the seat of the family of Hickes, was taken down in 1757, after having been a considerable time occupied by William Barton, as a place for breakfasts and public amusements. This manor includes the hamlet of Leytonstone, a long straggling place, inhabited by merchants and traders of the metropolis.‡

* Arms of Fraunceys: Per bend sinister, sable and or, a lion rampant counterchanged.

† Sir William Hickes, bart. son and heir of sir Michael, was lieutenant of Waltham Forest, one of the deputy-lieutenants of the county, and justice of peace. He underwent great trouble and danger on account of his loyalty to Charles the first. Sir William, his son, knighted by Charles the second at Ruckholt, when that king came to hunt in Waltham forest, became also a baronet on his father's death: he married Marthagnettes, daughter of sir Harry Coningsby, of North Mymms, in Hertfordshire, of the ancient family of Coningsby, in Herefordshire, by whom he had thirteen children, of whom only Harry, Charles, and Margaret attained maturity. He died in 1703, and his son, sir Harry, was his heir. Arms of Hickes: Gules, a fesse wavy, between three fleurs de lis, or. Crest: On a wreath, a buck's head couped at the shoulders or, gorged with a chaplet of roses, gules.

‡ On a branch of the Lea near this place are the Temple mills, said to have anciently belonged to the

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is of brick, and has a nave, north and south aisles, and a tower of stone and brick.* This ancient building having become ruinous, was repaired in 1658, or 1659, and the north aisle added: the upper chancel was originally built in 1610, by sir William Rider; and repaired in 1679, through the care, and partly at the charge of the rev. Mr. Strype, who also rebuilt the vicarage house, in 1677, with one hundred and forty pounds ten shillings of his own money, added to the voluntary contributions of the parishioners.

This church, given to the abbey of Stratford by Giles de Montfichet, remained in the patronage of the abbot and monks till the dissolution, and afterwards both the vicarage and rectory passed to the owner of the manor.†

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to three thousand, three hundred and seventy-four; and, in 1831, to three thousand, three hundred and twenty-three.

knight's templars, and afterwards to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem; in the year 1720, they were used for brass works, and have since been appropriated to the manufacture of sheet lead.

Forest House is a plain square building, on elevated ground fronting the forest: it anciently belonged to the abbots of Waltham, and becoming the seat of Charles Goring, earl of Norwich, was named Goring House: it afterwards belonged to sir Gilbert Heathcote, whose son, John Heathcote, esq. sold it to the Bosanquets.

Wallwood House was erected by Richard lord Colchester, who, in 1693, had a grant of two hundred and fifty acres of land in the forest of Waltham, in or near Leyton, for ninety-nine years. The lease was renewed in 1778, to Dorothea Owsley, spinster, for thirty-one years: it is within the bounds of the forest, but not subject to the forest laws, now in the tenure of Robert Williams, esq.

Sir Fisher Tench built and resided in a large mansion at Low Leyton, which afterwards belonged to Thomas Oliver, esq. to John Theophilus Daubuz, esq. and now to his widow.

* The interior walls are covered with escutcheons and monuments, many of them in commemoration of eminent persons here interred. In the chancel is a memorial of the celebrated historian and antiquary, John Strype, who held this vicarage sixty-eight years. He was buried here in 1737, at the age of ninety-four. In the north aisle is the monument of Charles Goring, earl of Norwich, who died in 1670; and a marble tablet to the memory of Mr. William Bowyer, a learned and eminent printer, whose life, as written by Mr. John Nichols, his apprentice, partner, and successor, at whose charge the tablet was erected, contains many interesting particulars of the state of literature, &c. through great part of the eighteenth century. Mr. Bowyer died at the age of seventy-four, in 1777.

Inscriptions.

There is a free-school for twenty poor boys in this and the adjoining parish of Walthamstow; a school of industry for thirty girls, and several Sunday schools, supported by subscription. Other charities are too numerous for insertion.

† Gough's Additions to Camden contain the following account of the antiquities found at this place:— "In the year 1718, Mr. Gansell having occasion to enlarge his gardens, on digging up about two acres of ground, found under the whole very large and strong foundations; in one place all stone, with considerable arches, an arched door-way, with steps down to it, but filled up with gravel. In many of the foundations were a great quantity of Roman tiles and bricks, mixed with more modern materials, and several rough and broken pieces of hard stone, some part of which, when polished, proved to be Egyptian granite; two large deep wells covered over with stone; and in digging a pond, after the workmen had sunk through a bed of clay, about ten feet, they met with a great quantity of oak timber, eight or ten inches square, mortised together like a floor, grown very hard and black, but uncertain how far it reached.

Antiquities.

BOOK II.

LITTLE ILFORD.

Little
Ilford.

The parish of Little Ilford is bounded on the west, south, and north, by East Ham and Wansted, and on the east by the river Rodon, which separates it from Barking. Its circumference is about seven miles.* The village is small, and situated a short distance westward from the town of Great Ilford. A house of correction for the county has been erected here: it is a spacious building, completed in 1831.

In the reign of the Confessor, two freemen held the lands of this parish, which, at the survey, belonged to Gocelin Loremar; in 1210, Haluit de Sifrewast held Ylleford as one knight's fee, and, in 1234, this manor of Eleford, with other lands, and a market, were granted to Richard de Grey. It appears to have been afterwards granted to the abbey of Stratford, but by whom is not known: it was divided into Little Ilford, Berengers, and Ray House. The estate, sometimes divided, at other times united in one possession, passed to numerous proprietors; and, in 1594, belonged to Robert Cecil, esq. and Thomas Owen, serjeant-at-law; and some part of it, which had become the property of Edward, earl of Oxford, was purchased of him by Robert, earl of Leicester, who sold it to sir Horace Palavicini, who died in 1615. Tobias was his brother and heir. Afterwards this estate belonged for a series of years to the Wight family, of Northamptonshire: and William Hibbet, esq. had a moiety of it in right of his wife, as heiress of the Wights; he was also entitled to the other moiety in fee.

Alders-
broke.

The manor of Aldersbroke was purchased by lord Cromwell of George Monox, for Henry the eighth; and that king granted it to John Heron, treasurer of his chamber. It belonged to sir Giles Heron, who died in 1521, whose son Giles,† not acknowledging the king's supremacy, his estate was forfeited to the crown. In 1535, this manor, a tenement called Draginsford, and Naked Hall, Grove, and Millfield, in Wansted, were granted to Anthony Knevett, for his life: and the same estate was, in 1544, granted to Katharine Adington, widow, and her son Thomas, the latter of whom, in 1533, conveyed it to John Traves and his heirs for ever. He died in 1569,

Several Roman brass and silver coins, both consular and imperial, to the time of Julius Cæsar, were scattered about, as well as some silver coins, with Saxon characters. The ground where these discoveries were made adjoins the church-yard, where, some time before, a large urn of coarse red earth was found." In 1735, was further discovered, while the workmen were digging holes for an avenue of trees to the garden, a Roman pavement, extending about twenty feet from north to south, and about sixteen from east to west.—*Brit.* vol. ii. p. 50. There are also some remains of a Roman entrenchment here, on a small eminence, rising from the river Lea; it appears to consist of a square embankment, inclosing a circular one: the latter, about thirty-three yards in diameter, is surrounded by a moat six yards wide: the former has traces of a double rampart, divided by a ditch.

* The parish, which is partly within the forest, contains six hundred and seventy acres of land, of which four hundred and eighty are arable, one hundred and twenty carrots and potatoes, and the remainder grass. Soil, a light gravel.

† He married Cecilia, daughter of sir Thomas More.

and the estate passed, in 1578, to Henry, earl of Pembroke; to Nicholas Fuller in 1580; and to Robert, earl of Leicester, who left it, by will, to his natural son, Robert Dudley; and he, in 1595, sold it to Edward Bellingham, esq. in whose family it continued, till, on the death of sir Edward Bellingham, in 1636, he was succeeded in his estates by Cicely, his uncle Richard Bellingham's daughter, wife of Mr. Thomas West; and Henry, their son, sold this estate to Henry Osbaston, esq. who died in 1669; his son Francis was high sheriff of Essex in 1678, in which year he died, leaving his widow Elizabeth his executrix, who sold this manor and estate to sir John Lethieullier, knt. of an ancient family, originally of Brabant, driven from their native country by the persecutions under the duke of Alva.* It continued in this family till the decease of Smart Lethieullier, esq. in 1760, who was succeeded in his estates by Mary, daughter of his brother, Charles Lethieullier, esq. counsellor-at-law, by Mary, sister of Charles Gore, esq. This lady, by marriage, conveyed this manor to her husband, Edward Hulse, esq. who, in 1786, sold it to sir James Tilney Long, who took down the house.

The interior of the church of Little Ilford consists of a rough-cast nave, and a red-bricked chancel, as plain and unadorned as a parish school-house; in this plain building is, however, the private burial-place of a gentleman's family; though, from the smallness of the church, it is allowed to be used as a vestry-room: beneath this church are interred the remains of Smart Lethieullier, one of those patient yet enthusiastic investigators who take delight in tracing the history of former ages, and those remains of antiquity that serve for their illustration.† This church is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and the advowson of it, granted by Henry the eighth to Morgan Philips, has since belonged to various families.‡ There are forty acres of glebe land to this church.

Church.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to eighty-seven, and, in 1831, to one hundred and fifteen.

* John, son of Peter Lethieullier, ancestor of this family, was burnt for his religion at Geneva: John, his son, removed to Cologne, and died there in 1593, leaving his son and heir John, who came into England with his mother in 1605, and resided at Great Ilford. Arms of Lethieullier: Argent, a chevron azure, between three hawks' heads coupée, vert.

† Gent. Mag. vol. 100, part 1, p. 496.

‡ Some of the monuments have a very elegant appearance, particularly the large sarcophagus of red-veined marble, in memory of Smart Lethieullier, esq. and of Margaret his wife: she died June 19, 1753, aged forty-five. On the urn to the left is the following: "In memory of Smart Lethieullier, esq. a gentleman of polite literature and elegant taste, an encourager of art and ingenious artists, a studious promoter of literary inquiries, a companion and a friend of learned men; industriously versed in the science of antiquity, and richly possessed of the curious productions of Nature; but who modestly desired no other inscription on his tombstone than what he had made the rule of his life; 'To do justly, to love mercy, and to walk humbly with his God.' He was born Nov. 3, 1701, and died without issue, Aug. 27, 1760." Besides other inscriptions belonging to the Lethieullier family, there are memorials of Benjamin Smart, esq. who died July 12, 1761, aged seventy-one. William Waldegrave, who died Oct.

BOOK II.

WANSTED.

Wansted.

The parish of Wansted is computed to be twenty miles in circumference, separated from Barking by the river Rodon. The village is on the borders of Waltham Forest, on a hill commanding a view of the city of London, and its environs; the hills of Kent, the river Thames, and a wide extent of a highly cultivated and beautiful country.* It was celebrated, a few years ago, as possessing one of the most splendid and magnificent mansions in the kingdom; but Wansted House has been pulled down, and sold in lots under the hammer; the costly furniture, with all the valuable antiques, disposed of in the same manner; and the beautiful and extensive park is now let for the grazing of cattle. There is a charity school in the village, founded by Miss Long, for twenty boys and twenty girls, with an endowment vested in trustees. Distance from Stratford two, and from Whitechapel six miles.

Wansted manor.

The grant of this manor by Alfric to the church of Westminster, was confirmed by Edward the confessor;† but before the end of that monarch's reign it became, probably by exchange, the property of the church of St. Paul, and was afterwards appropriated to the bishop of London; under whom, at the time of the Domesday survey, it was holden by Ralph Fitz-Brien. It afterwards passed through various possessors‡ to sir John Heron, whose son, sir Giles Heron, being attainted, his estates were seized by the crown, and this manor was granted, by Edward the sixth, to Robert lord Rich, who made it his country residence, and is supposed to have re-built the manor-house, then called Naked Hall Hawe. His son sold it to Robert, earl of Leicester, who enlarged and greatly improved the mansion, and in May, 1578, entertained queen Elizabeth in it for several days: here also, the same year, in September, he solemnised his marriage with the countess of Essex. On the earl's decease, in 1588,§ Wansted, with other lands in the adjoining parishes, became the property of

15, 1610, aged seventy-six: and of Dorothy, his wife, who died Oct. 26, 1589, aged forty-two. Thomas Newton, rector of Ilford in 1583, who died and was buried here in 1607, was a Latin poet, divine, schoolmaster and physician, a native of Cheshire. He was an author of some celebrity in his time, and his works are numerous.—*Wood's Athen.* ed. 1721.

In the parishes of Ilford, East Ham, West Ham, Leyton, and Wansted, on the level part of Epping Forest, a great mart for cattle, brought from Wales, Scotland, and the north of England, is held annually, from the latter end of February till the beginning of May. The business between the dealers is principally transacted at the sign of the Rabbits, on the high road, in Little Ilford.

* Wansted, exclusive of its share of the forest, (within the bounds of which it is wholly included), contains six hundred acres of cultivated land: the soil, gravel with some loam and clay.

† Monast. Angl. vol. i. p. 61.

‡ After Fitz-Brien, succeeded the Hodeing family; and that of Huntercombe, from the time of Henry the third till toward the close of the reign of Richard the second. In 1446, John Tattershall held this possession, succeeded by Robert Tattershall and others; and by sir Ralph Hastings, in 1487.—*Strype's Additions to Stowe's Survey of Lond.* vol. ii. p. 122. *Newcourt*, vol. ii. p. 639.

§ At the time of his death, the earl was much involved in debt; and an inventory and estimate was in



the Countess, his widow, who afterwards married sir Christopher Blount, and, by some family conveyances, this manor became vested in Charles Blount, earl of Devonshire, on whose death, without lawful issue, in the year 1606, it appears to have escheated to the crown.* The following autumn, James the first spent some time here, after his return from a western progress. It was afterwards the property of George, marquis of Buckingham; of whom, in 1619, it was purchased by sir Henry Mildmay, and his wife Anne. Their descendant, sir William Mildmay, and others, conveyed it to sir Josiah Child, whose son sir Richard, afterwards created earl Tilney, erected Wansted House in the year 1715, near the site of the ancient mansion. His grandson, the late earl Tilney, dying without issue in the year 1784, this manor, with other large estates, devolved upon his nephew, sir James Tilney Long, bart. of Draycot, in Wiltshire; whose only son James, succeeded to his title and inheritance, in 1794. The last of the family, in lineal descent, who occupied this princely edifice, was Miss Tilney Long, who married Mr. Wellesley Pole: she died in 1825, leaving two children.

A manorial estate in Wansted, which anciently belonged to the prior and canons of the Holy Trinity, in London, was on that account named Canons Hall, vulgarly Cann Hall. On the dissolution of monasteries it was granted, by queen Mary, to John Strelley, who died in 1559; and whose son Nicholas died in 1611, leaving Cecilia, his daughter, wife of Humphrey Cardinal, his heiress. In 1635, Richard Boothby and Thomas Woolhouse, esqs. had this estate, and it afterwards belonged to William Colegrave, esq. and to his son of the same name. The present owner of Canons Hall is John Manby, esq.

Cann, or
Canons
Hall.

Snaresbrook, in this parish, is a delightful village on the confines of the Forest, not far distant from the river Rodon, about a mile and a half from Woodford, and seven from London: it contains some capital houses, the residences of gentlemen's families; the neighbourhood, naturally pleasant and healthful, has been improved by art, and selected as a suitable situation for numerous elegant seats and country villas. There

consequence taken of all his property, real and personal, the original of which is now in the British Museum. From this it appears that the furniture, library, horses, &c. at Wansted, were valued at one thousand, one hundred and nineteen pounds, six shillings and sixpence. The pictures, among which were three portraits of Henry the eighth, the queens Mary and Elizabeth, lady Casimere, lady Rich, and thirty-six others not particularised, were valued at eleven pounds, thirteen shillings and four pence. The library, consisting only of an old Bible, the Acts and Monuments, old and torn, seven psalters, and a service book, was estimated at thirteen shillings and eight pence. The horses were valued at three hundred and sixteen pounds and eight pence. The bill for the earl's funeral amounted to the enormous sum (in that age) of four thousand pounds.

* Lord Mountjoy, as is stated by Stowe, having returned out of Ireland, 4th of June, 1603, with Hugh O'Neill, earl of Tyrone, who had been in rebellion against queen Elizabeth, they were both lodged at Wansted, in Essex, for a season, and then repaired to the court, where they were honourably received.

BOOK II. is a fine expanse of water, with clumps of trees and rural scenery; and the Eagle Inn is a favourite resting-place for parties of pleasure, who during the summer months pass this way into Essex.

Church. Wansted church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, was repaired and enlarged in the early part of the last century, principally at the expense of the first earl Tilney; but being still found small and incommodious, it was resolved, at the instance of Dr. Glasse, the present rector, to pull it down, and build a new church on a larger scale, nearly adjoining to the old site. The first stone of the present structure was laid on the 13th of July, 1787, and it was finished and consecrated in 1790. The building is of brick, cased with Portland stone, and having a portico of the Doric order: at the west end is a cupola, supported by eight Ionic columns. The inside is extremely neat and elegant, without any unnecessary embellishment: it consists of a chancel, nave, and two aisles, separated by columns of the Corinthian order. The pavement (which is remarkable for its beauty and neatness) is of stone, brought from Painswick, in Gloucestershire. In the chancel* is a beautiful window of stained glass, by Eginton, of Birmingham, representing our Saviour bearing the cross, from the picture at Magdalen College, Oxford. In the east window of the north aisle are the royal arms; in the south aisle, those of the late sir J. T. Long, bart. In the chancel is a superb monument, with the effigies of the deceased in white marble, to the memory of sir Josiah Child, bart. who died in the year 1699.* This church has a glebe of seventy-six acres.†

In 1821, the number of inhabitants in this parish amounted to one thousand three hundred and fifty-four, and, in 1831, to one thousand four hundred and three.

* Lysons, vol. iv. p. 236.

Roman
Anti-
quities.

On the south side of Wansted, nearly joining to Aldersbrook, a tessellated pavement was discovered, in the year 1735, by some labourers who were digging holes to plant an avenue of trees from the gardens. Its extent, from north to south, was about twenty feet; and from east to west, about sixteen. The tesserae were of brick, and of various sizes and colours; on the outside they were red, forming a border of about one foot in breadth, within which were several ornaments, and, in the centre, the figure of a man, mounted on some beast. A small brass coin of the emperor Valens, a silver coin, and several large pieces of Roman brick, were found among the ruins. Mr. Lethieullier supposed it to have been the pavement of a banqueting-room, belonging to a Roman villa. About three hundred yards farther to the south, ruins of brick foundations have been met with, together with fragments of urns, patera, Roman coins, and other antiquities.—*Gough's Camden*, vol. ii. p. 50. *Lysons' Environs*, vol. iv. p. 232.

† Clerkenwell nunnery, in Middlesex, had a yearly rent of one mark out of this parish, being the gift of Henry Foliot, and Lecia his wife, daughter of Jordan, son of Ralph, son of Brian, founder of the said house. Also, Abraham de Wanestede gave them the mill of Wanestede, and Melegrave, or Millgrove, near the same — *Monasticon*, vol. i. p. 431, 433.

WALTHAMSTOW.

This parish extends eastward to Wansted, to Leyton on the south, and to the river Lea westward; it is computed to be fourteen miles in circumference. The village, on the border of the forest, consists of a mixture of country seats, cottages, and farms, so that it may with propriety be considered what the ancients would have named "a rural city." It is pleasant and healthy, surrounded by beautiful and romantic woodland scenery; besides the church and the chapel of ease of St. John's, at Chapel End, there are two places for public worship belonging to dissenters. Distant from Stratford three, and from London six miles.*

Waltham-
stow.

In the reign of Edward the confessor, this lordship belonged to Waltheof, son of Siward, by Elfreda, daughter of Aldred, both of which noblemen were earls of Northumberland.† Some time about the year 1075, Waltheof was beheaded at Winchester, and left two daughters.‡ Maud, married to Simon de St. Liz, who had the earldom of Huntingdon; Alice, otherwise called Judith, was married to Ralph de Toeni, of Flamsted, in Hertfordshire, to whom she brought this manor, from him named Walthamstow Toni. There were also three other manors in this parish: Walthamstow Beandick, or Francys, also named Low Hall: Higham Bensted; and Salisbury Hall. There are also the following hamlets: Hou Street, Wood Street, Marsh Street, Clay Street, and Chapel End.

Walthamstow Toni, and Walthamstow Francis, originally formed one manor, given by the Conqueror to Ralph de Toeni, who was his standard-bearer at the time of the Conquest. He died in 1612: of his sons, Roger was his successor, followed by Ralph de Toeni, probably his son: he was in arms with the barons against king John; was one of Henry the third's generals in 1232, and held Welcumbestowe by the service of attending the king in his proper person when he went upon any warlike expedition: he died on a voyage to the Holy Land in 1239; Petronil was his widow, and their son and heir was Roger; who fighting for the king at Lewes, was taken prisoner, and had his castle of Kirtling seized by the barons. Dying in 1277, Ralph, his son, succeeded, followed by Robert, son of Ralph, who held Wolcamstowe

Waltham-
stow Toni

* The parish contains four thousand three hundred acres, of which three thousand are inclosed, three hundred and fifty open fields, one hundred and thirty inclosed woodland, eight hundred and twenty waste land and roads. The greater part of the inclosed and open fields are pasture. In 1794, there were only four hundred and twenty-five acres of arable land in the parish; in 1795, there were six hundred and two. A great proportion of the soil is clay, with some gravel, sand, and loam. It is wholly in the forest. There are no turnpike roads in this parish, the roads being repaired by statute labour.—*Lysons' Environs.*

† Sax. Chron.

‡ William Gemmeticensis says he left three daughters: lib. viii. ch. 37; but Orderic. Vitalis affirms he left only two, p. 522.

BOOK II. of the king, and died in 1309, leaving his sister Alice his heiress.* Walthamstow Toni, or High Hall, now belongs to the Maynard family. This manor has a court leet and court baron annually at Toni Hall, a large brick building in Shernall Street, about a quarter of a mile from the church: High Hall, the original manor-house, with a few fields attached to it, was sold from the estate previous to the purchase.

Waltham-
stow
Francis.

Low Hall, or Walthamstow Francis, belonged to Thomas Argall, of Barking, in 1563; and was, by a female heiress, conveyed to John Green, esq. of London, jeweller to king William; he died in 1718, and the estate afterwards became the property of the Bosanquet family, of Low Leyton. The manor-house is a mile west from the church.

Higham
Bensted.

The manor-house of Higham Bensted stood on an eminence named Higham Hill, a mile and a half north west from the church; the estate belonged to Haldam, a free-man, in the time of the Confessor, and at the survey to Peter de Valoines, whose great grand-daughter Lora conveyed it to her husband, Alexander de Baliol. Afterwards, from the reign of Edward the second to that of Henry the seventh, it belonged to the Bensted family; in 1494, to sir Thomas Lovel; and had become the property of

* She was at that time the widow of Thomas de Leyborn, and afterwards married to Guy de Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, by whom she had Thomas, John, and five daughters; and, on his death in 1315, she gave five hundred marks for licence to marry William la Zouch, (styled of Mortimer) of Ashby, who after her death held this manor in her right, and dying in 1337, it became the inheritance of Thomas de Beauchamp, earl of Warwick, who, in 1369, died of the plague at Calais; he had this manor, and the reversion of Weltomstow Bedyk, which he had purchased. He had seven sons and nine daughters, and was succeeded by his son Thomas. This earl, by the artifices of Richard the second's evil counsellors, lost his life and his estates in 1396, and these two manors in particular were given to William de Scrope, earl of Wiltshire: but on the accession of Henry the fourth, the family of Beauchamp had their inheritance restored; and the earl of Warwick dying in 1401, left these manors to Margaret, his widow, and to their son Richard, earl of Warwick, on her decease. She died in 1406; her son, the earl, in 1439, and his son Henry in 1445, leaving his only daughter Anne, who dying in 1449, these and his other estates were divided between his two sisters, Elianor and Anne. Elianor died possessed of Walthamstow Toni in 1467; her two husbands were Thomas lord Roos, of Hamlake, and Edmund Beaufort, duke of Somerset. Edmund Roos, her grandson, was her heir. Anne, the other heiress, was wife of Richard Nevill, earl of Salisbury, and had Walthamstow Franceys, with the title of earl of Warwick confirmed to him, and to the heirs of the said Anne. This Richard, named "the king-maker," lost his life at the battle of Barnet, in 1471, and his widow in consequence suffered the severest distresses; all her vast inheritance being taken from her, and settled on her two daughters, Isabel, wife of George, duke of Clarence; and Anne, wife of Richard, duke of Gloucester, brothers of Edward the fourth, as if she herself had been naturally dead. Henry the seventh, on the death of the two daughters, in 1487, restored this noble inheritance to the said Anne, by act of parliament; but not with purpose that she should enjoy it, for the same year, by special feoffment and fine, it was conveyed wholly to the king. But before this act, the manor of Low Hall had been conveyed to John Hugford, who died possessed of it in 1485. The crown becoming possessed of these manors, made distinct and several grants of them to various persons. In 1583, the two manors were united in the possession of Theophilus Adams, but were again separated, and the manor of Walthamstow Toni belonged to George Rodney, esq. in 1365; and very soon after was conveyed to Charles Maynard, esq.

sir John Heron in 1521: in 1566, it was conveyed, by Thomas Heron and others, to sir Thomas Rowe, lord mayor of London in 1568, and retained by his descendants till sometime after the decease of William Rowe, in 1739. It afterwards belonged to Richard Newman, esq. sheriff of Essex in 1762; and he sold it to Anthony Bacon, esq. member of parliament for Aylesbury, who erected the elegant mansion of Higham House: it is a square brick building with wings, seated on a high ridge of ground, on the northern extremity of the parish, which slopes to the east and to the west, in both which directions the prospects are extensive, diversified, and beautiful. On the north-west the eye is directed over a finely wooded country into Hertfordshire; to the west and south-west are the hills of Highgate, and the spires of the metropolis. The east front commands a rich woodland prospect over parts of Hainault forest and the vale of the Thames, which are shut in by a ridge of the Kent hills. On the western side of the house is a fine park, bounded by parts of Epping Forest to the north and south, and by a piece of water at the bottom. The whole is encompassed by a winding walk, which, contiguous to the house, is ornamented with numerous indigenous and exotic trees and shrubs, and is afterwards conducted through the Forest. Mr. Bacon sold this seat to John Biggin, esq. whose widow, in 1785, sold it by auction, when it was purchased by William Hornby, governor of Bombay, who enlarged and much improved the house and grounds; which have been further improved by John Harman, esq. by whom it was purchased in 1790,* and in whose family it has continued, being the seat of Jeremiah Harman, esq.

The name of this manor is derived from Margaret Plantagenet, countess of Salisbury, under whom it was holden, in 1522, by sir Thomas Tyrwhitt, who died in 1522, leaving his son sir Thomas his heir. After the barbarous execution of the countess, by Henry the eighth, this estate is supposed to have passed to the crown: in 1560, it was granted, by queen Mary, to sir Thomas White; and, in 1590, Robert Symons had a grant of it from queen Elizabeth; and his heir, on his death in 1623, was his son Thomas. Succeeding owners of this estate were Richard Edge, esq. in 1667, whose descendant, James Edge, esq. bequeathed it to Richard Sheldon, esq. who dying without issue, it devolved to Rice Fellow, esq. and he, in 1761, bequeathed it to George Dickerdine, who assumed the name of Rice Fellow; in 1778, he sold this estate to William Cooke, esq. and it is now the property of Mrs. H. Cooke.

Salisbury
Hall.

The mansion, now a farm-house, is a mile and a half north from the church, in a lane leading from Clay Street to Chingford church.

The house at Walthamstow belonging to Tristram Conyers, who died in 1620, afterwards became the property of William Selwyn, esq. by whom it was new fronted.

The Ray House estate was purchased from sir George Wright, bart. by B. H. English, esq.

* Lysons' Environs, vol. iv. p. 287.

BOOK II.

Walthamstow-house is the residence of lady Wigram.*

Edward Withipool, of Marks, in Leyton, had very considerable possessions in this parish, as appears from his will, referred to by Mr. Astle.†

Church.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is a stately structure, on an eminence, supposed to have been originally erected in the twelfth century: it has a nave, north and south aisles, and chancel: the tower was partly rebuilt by George Monox, who also built the nave, in 1535. It was enlarged, repaired, and beautified in 1817, at an expense of about two thousand pounds.

At Chapel End, in this parish, a chapel of ease has been erected, at an expense of eighteen hundred pounds, raised by subscription.

The living of the church is a vicarage, and has an endowment of land left by Mr. Maynard, which produces about one hundred and twenty-five pounds per annum.‡

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to four thousand, three hundred and four; and, in 1831, to four thousand two hundred and fifty-eight.

* Sir Robert Wigram, bart. of Walthamstow House, county of Essex, married Selina, daughter of the late sir John Hayes, bart. and sister of the present sir Thomas Pelham Hayes, by Anne, daughter of the honourable Henry White, by whom he has, with two daughters, four sons; Robert, George Augustus, Frederick, (to whom his late majesty George the fourth and the present king William stood sponsors) and Fitzroy. Sir Robert inherited the title as second baronet, at the decease of his father, 6th November, 1830. He is a deputy-lieutenant for the county of Essex, doctor of civil law in the University of Oxford, and for twenty-five years a representative in the imperial parliament. Arms: Argent on a pale gules three escallops or, over all a chevron engrailed counterchanged; on a chief, waves of the sea, thereon a ship, representing an English vessel of war of the sixteenth century, with four masts, sails furled, proper, colours flying, gules. Crest: On a mount vert, a hand in armour, couped at the wrist, fessewise, proper, charged with an escallop, holding a fleur-de-lis erect, or. Supporters: On either side an eagle, wings elevated or. Collared gules and charged on the breast with a trefoil, vert. Town residence, Connaught Place. Seats: Walthamstow House, Essex; and Belmont Lodge, Worcestershire.

† "I leave, (he says) to my wife Elizabeth, for her dower, all my lands in Walthamstow and Leyton, during her life; which is within little of two hundred marks by the year; trusting, (yea I may say, as I think, assuring myself) that she will marry no man, for fear to meet with so evil a husband as I have been."—*From the will in the Prerogative Office, copied by Thomas Astle, esq. F.R.S. and preserved in his library.*

Inscriptions.

‡ The inscriptions at Walthamstow are unusually numerous: among the most elegant and stately monuments are several belonging to the family of Conyers; and one for the lady of sir Thomas Merry, who died in 1632.

A very old monument in Monox's chapel, in the north aisle, bears the following: "Here lieth sir George Monox, knt. sometime lord mayor of London, and dame Ann his wife; which sir George died in 1543, and dame Ann in 1500." This lord mayor (says Weever) re-edified the decayed steeple of this church, and added thereunto the side aisle, with the chapel wherein he lieth entombed. He founded a fair almshouse in the church-yard, for an alms priest, and thirteen poor alms people, which he endowed with competent revenues. He also made a causeway of timber for foot travellers from this town.

In the window of Thorne's chapel there was sometime ago the following: "Christen people, praye for the soul of Robert Thorne, citizen of London, with whose goodys thys syde of thys church was newe edyfyd and fynnyshyd in the yeaere of our Lord 1535."

Among the monuments in the church-yard are: For Mrs. Mary Squires, founder of the new almshouse

WOODFORD.

Woodford

An ancient ford, where Woodford bridge is now situated, was the occasion of the name of this parish, which is wholly included in the forest. It is three miles in extent from east to west; and two miles from north to south. The village, enclosing a green, is distinguished by the purity of its air, and the beautiful and extensive prospects in various directions.*

This parish was one of the seventeen lordships given by earl Harold to the abbey of Waltham, and was confirmed to that house by the charter of Edward the confessor, in 1062. The canons of Waltham held it at the time of the survey; and when Henry the second converted the secular canons there into regulars, in 1177, he confirmed to them this manor, as did also Richard the first, by his charter of 1198.† In 1545, John Lyon had this estate, which being exchanged with king Edward the sixth, he gave it to Edward Fynes, lord Clinton and Say, from whom it was conveyed, in 1553, to Robert Whetston, father of sir Bernard Whetston, of Woodford; from whose descendant, Bernard Whetston, it was conveyed, in 1624, to lady or sir Thomas Rowe, and was sold by the lady, in 1675, to sir Benjamin Thorowgood, lord mayor of London in 1685; and his son Richard conveyed it, in 1707, to Richard earl Tilney, who kept the manor, but sold the manor-house, which is near the church-yard, to Christopher Crow, esq. who married Charlotte, eldest daughter of Edward Henry Lee, earl of Lichfield, widow of Benedict Leonard Calvert, lord Baltimore; she dying in 1720, he, in 1727, sold this house to William Hunt, esq. whose descendants or heirs sold it to John Maitland, esq.

Woodford
Hall.

in 1797; Anthony Todd, esq. secretary of the post-office in 1798; and a handsome sarcophagus in memory of Isaac Solly, esq. in 1802.

The charities are numerous and important: among which are Maynard's charity, which produces upwards of forty pounds per annum, left in 1686, for a free-school and almshouse.—Mrs. R. Banks's reversionary legacy, bequeathed in 1815, now produces above thirty pounds per annum: and, in 1825, a bequest of five hundred pounds in the four per cent. annuities was made in aid of the almshouse founded by William Bedford, esq. There are National and Sunday schools well supported by subscription. An infant school, established in 1823, which admits one hundred and seventy children. A school belonging to the Independents teaches and clothes thirty children annually. In 1797, Mrs. Mary Squires endowed six almshouses for poor widows, the annual income of which is seventy-eight pounds; with numerous other charitable bequests and endowments.

Charities.

* Soil of Woodford, generally a strong loam; contains about two thousand acres, chiefly meadow and pasture.

† William Hickman, esq. ancestor of the earl of Plymouth, and of sir N. H. Hickman, was lord of the manor of Woodford Hall, where he died in 1420.—*See Baronetage*, ed. 1741, vol. ii. Also, Walter Hickman died here in 1540; and bequeathed to Clement his son, four of his best ambling mares, his best gown lined with fitches, and his russet-gown lined with fox. To the church of Woodford he left ten pounds, to redeem paschal money at Easter; so that every body in the parish, when they came to God's board, might say a paternoster and an ave for his soul, and all Christian souls.—*Lysons's Environs*, vol. iv.

BOOK II.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, was erected in 1817, on the site of the former ancient building, at an expense of nearly nine thousand pounds, defrayed partly by subscription, and partly by rates. It is situated on the lowest part of the village, on the west side of the London road, and is an elegant edifice, in the ancient style of English architecture, with a square embattled tower; the nave separated from the aisles by six pointed arches, carried up to the roof, which is of open wood-work, supported by eight pillars, and surmounted in the centre by an octangular lantern tower. The east window is of stained glass, divided into three compartments, containing figures of our Saviour, the four Evangelists, and St. Peter and St. Paul.

Mr. Warner

Mr. Richard Warner resided in an old mansion named Hearts, in Woodford Row, where he planted a botanical garden, and very successfully cultivated rare exotics. The *Plantæ Woodfordiensis*, written by him and privately circulated, was the result of the annual herborizations of himself and his acquaintance in this neighbourhood. The house was built in the year 1617, by sir Humphrey Handforth, master of the wardrobe to James the first, who is said to have been frequently entertained here when hunting in the forest. Jervoise Clark Jervoise, esq. married Mr. Warner's niece, and she had this estate for her marriage portion.

This parish, in 1821, contained two thousand, six hundred, and ninety-nine inhabitants; and, in 1831, two thousand, five hundred and forty-eight.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN THE HUNDRED OF BECONTREE.

R. Rectory.

C. Chapelry.

V. Vicarage.

† Discharged from payment of First Fruits.

P. C. Perpetual Curacy.

Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Barking, V.	Middlesex.	Oliver Lodge .....	....	£19 8 11½	All Souls Col. Oxf.
Dagenham, R.	Essex	T. L. Fanshaw	1816	19 10 0	Mrs. Bonynge.
Ham, East, V.	Wm. Streatfield ..	1827	14 3 9	Bishop of London.
Ham, West, V.	H. C. Jones	1809	39 8 4	The King.
Ilford, Great, C.	} T. L. Cooke	1815	Not in charge } 11 13 9 }	Jas. H. Leigh, esq. Rector of Barking.
Ilford, Little, R.				
Ilford Chapelry	Rev. Stephen Craff. .	....	.....	John Pardoe, esq.
Leyton, Low, V.	C. H. Laprimandaye.	1800	† 7 12 0	Rev. W. Wilson, D.D.
Walthamstow, V.	W. Wilson, D. D. ...	1822	13 6 8	
Do. Chapel of Ease	B. E. Nicholls .....	....	
Wansted, R.	William Gilley	1812	6 13 0	{ Hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley.
Woodford, R.	William Boldero ...	1792	11 12 1½	{ Hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley.

CHAPTER XV.

HUNDRED OF CHAFFORD.

THE brook of Ingreburne, which flows into the Thames below Rainham, forms the western boundary of this hundred; which extends eastward to Barstable, and from the Thames southward to the hundred of Ongar on the north-west: it is in length, from north to south, thirteen miles; and in width, from east to west, from little more than two to seven miles. The name written Ceafford, Ceffeord, and Ceffeurd, is of uncertain origin: it contains the following fourteen parishes. Alveley, Wenington, Rainham, West Thurrock, Greys Thurrock, Stifford, South Okendon, North Okendon, Cranham, Upminster, Great Warley, Little Warley, Childerditch, and South Weald. Chafford.

ALVELEY.

Alveley, or Aveley parish, is separated from West Thurrock by a creek named Marditch, and extends to Wenington, Rainham, and the Okendons; it is computed to be nine miles in circumference. The village is small, on ground considerably elevated, about two miles from the Thames, over which, and in other directions, it commands extensive prospects: formerly this place was a market-town, as appears from ancient records,* from which we also learn, that the road on which this village is situated was in ancient times named Bredle Street, and is conjectured to be of Roman origin. Distant from Brentwood ten, and from London twenty miles. Alveley.

The lands of this parish, in the time of Edward the confessor, belonged to Suene, to Ulsi, Edward, Godman, Ulwin, Ulstan, and five other freemen: at the survey, they were holden by John, son of Waleram; Odo, bishop of Bayeux; William of Warren; Suene, and his under-tenant Lewen; and by Ansgar the cook. Afterwards they were divided into four manors.

The ancient mansion of the manor of Alveley stood in a field surrounded by a moat, on the south-east corner of the church-yard; it was part of the estate of the son of Waleram: Gilbert de Tani held it as part of his barony, under the name of Anvilers, in the reign of Henry the second and king John; and it afterwards belonged to the Alveley.

* From writings formerly in the possession of lord Dacre.

BOOK II. families of Brianson, Bradeston, and De la Pole.* It was conveyed, by a female heiress, to sir Michael Stanhope (ancestor of lord Chesterfield) who was involved in the unhappy fate of Edward duke of Somerset, the protector, who had married his sister: his widow Anne survived him many years, to the great advantage of the Stanhope family, carefully attending to the education of her children, and the preservation of their inheritance. The estate was afterwards conveyed to the crown, and made part of the endowment of the hospital of the Savoy, in London, founded by Henry the seventh, in 1505, and after the dissolution was granted, by Edward the sixth, to St. Thomas's Hospital.

Belhouse. This manor has been named from a family of great antiquity, who flourished here in the reigns of king John and of Henry the third. In 1200, Richard de Belhus† had a confirmation from king John, of all the lands which Reinfred de Bruer held in Ramsden. Sir Theobald de Belhus was his son, and the father of sir Richard, and sir Thomas; and sir Richard, his heir, having only one daughter, Alice, married to sir Nicholas Barrington, he gave the manor of Ramsden (since named Belhouse) to his brother, sir Thomas, who was made seneschal of Ponthieu by Edward the first: by his wife Florentia, he had sir John, Nicholas, and William. Nicholas, the second son, was seated at Alveley, and is buried under an ancient tombstone in the chancel of this church. A co-heiress of the family, by marriage, conveyed the estate to John Barrett, esq. of Hawkhurst, in Kent, in whose family it remained more than two hundred years; during which they were greatly distinguished by their noble alliances, and by the posts of honour they enjoyed under government.‡

* In 1287, Bartholomew de Brianson died holding this estate, as part of the inheritance of his wife Johanna, and was succeeded by his son William in 1310; by John, who died in 1315; and by sir John Brianson and his wife Margaret. He died in 1337, leaving his daughter Johanna his heiress; on whose death in 1339, the reversion of the estate was in William de Wanton. Thomas de Bradeston, who died in 1360, had this manor, with the advowson of a chapel here: Thomas was his son and heir, on whose death, in 1374, his only daughter Elizabeth was his heiress, and married to sir Walter de la Pole, who retained possession of all, or part of the estate, till his death in 1433; reversion to Edmund Inglethorpe, cousin and heir of the said Elizabeth; and, by female heirship, it was conveyed to various families.

† Arms of Belhouse, of Alveley: Argent, three lions rampant, gules, armed and langued azure, between three cross-crosslets fitchée, gules.

‡ The ancestor of the family of Barrett is understood to have come into England with the Conqueror, the name being on the roll of Battle Abbey. Sir Thomas Barrett Lennard, bart. of Belhouse, in the county of Essex, F.S.A. born in 1761; married, in 1787, Dorothy, daughter of the late sir John St. Aubyn, bart. by whom (who died 26th October 1830) he has issue Thomas Barrett, member of parliament for Maldon; married, first, 3d of August, 1815, Margaret, second daughter of John Wharton, esq. of Skelton Castle, in the county of York; and secondly married, after that lady's decease, in 1826, Mary, only daughter of the late Bartlett Bridger Shedden, esq. of Aldham, in the county of Suffolk, and has issue Thomas, born in 1826. John, married in 1814 Dorothy-Anne, second daughter of sir Walter Stirling, bart. and has issue. George, married in 1820 Elizabeth, eldest daughter and co-heiress of Edmund of Hexworthy, in the county of Cornwall, and has issue Henry, in holy orders, married,



Belhouse is surrounded by a park, about three miles in circumference, which contains abundance of fine forest-trees, so disposed and grouped, as to afford agreeably diversified and interesting appearances. The grounds are rather low than elevated, yet, from several stations in the park, the view over the Thames into Kent is extensive. The walks are pleasant and convenient, from the dryness of the soil, which is light and sandy. The noble and stately mansion was erected in the reign of Henry the eighth, and exhibits a fine specimen of the domestic architecture of that era. Yet it has been considerably altered and improved by several proprietors, particularly by the last lord Dacre, whose decorations are very elegant, and were made from his own designs.*

The ancient mansion of Bumsted was surrounded by a moat; it stood a mile from the church, on the northern extremity of Alveley park. This estate, in the reigns of Edward the first, second, and third, belonged to sir William de Bumsted, and William his son, and afterwards descended as the rest of the estates of this parish, to the right hon. lord Dacre. An estate named Brooklands has also gone with Bumsted manor. Bumsted.

The ancient mansion of Bretts is a mile north from the church, at some distance from the road leading from Alveley to Romford. It is large, encompassed with a wide moat of clear water; and, though it has been converted into a farm-house, it yet retains the characteristic evidence of its having been a gentleman's seat: Charles Barrett, esq. father of lord Newburgh, lived here. The lower story is of brick, with very ancient Gothic windows: the rest is rough cast. Bretts.

Keliton is the supposed ancient name of this estate, of which the Saxon possessors were the thane Ulstan, and five freemen: at the survey, it belonged to Suene, and his under-tenant Lewin; and to William de Warren. The name of Bretts was only given to a part of this manor, from ancient owners, of the family of Le Bret; and the

in 1821, Hebe Dorothy, youngest daughter and co-heiress of Edmund Prideaux, esq. of Hexworthy, in the county of Cornwall. Edward Pomeroy Dacre, in holy orders, married, in 1825, Rachel, eldest daughter of Jeremiah Ives, esq. of St. Katharines, in the county of Norfolk. Charles. Dorothy Anne, married, in 1822, to William John, third son of sir John St. Aubyn, bart. Julia Elizabeth, married, in 1822, to C. D. Nevison, M.D. Charlotte Frances. Sir Thomas, who is the son and testamentary heir of Thomas Barrett Lennard, lord Dacre (son and heir of Richard Barrett Lennard, esq. by Anne, baroness Dacre, youngest daughter and co-heiress of Thomas, earl of Sussex.)—(*See Burke's Extinct Peerage*) assumed, by sign manual, the surname and arms of Barrett Lennard, and was created a baronet, 30th June, 1801. Arms: Quarterly, first and fourth, or, on a fesse gules three fleur-de-lis of the first, for Lennard; second and third per pale, argent and gules barry of four, counterchanged for Barrett, all within a bordure wavy sable. Crest: Out of a ducal coronet or, an Irish wolf-dog's head, per fesse argent and ermine, charged with an escallop, barways nebulé, gules and sable. Motto: *Pour bien desirer*. Town residence, 40, Bryanstone Square. Seat, Belhouse, Essex.

* This manor possesses the peculiar privilege of excluding any person, however high in rank, from entering it in pursuit of game.

BOOK II. other portion retained its original name till after the year 1395, as appears by a grant of that date, from John Chapman to William Warle, of a house and ten acres of land in Alveley, lying between the land of Kelington south, and the land of Bretts north. This manor was holden of the honour of Raleigh, and the fee of earl Warren, by Hugh le Bret, who died in 1266, and retained by his descendants till Elizabeth, only daughter of Thomas le Brett, conveyed it in marriage to her husband, Henry Baudwin, of South Okendon.* It afterwards descended through various families, by female heirship, till it was conveyed, in 1531, to John, afterwards sir John Baker, knt. recorder of London, privy counsellor, and chancellor of the exchequer, who married Elizabeth, widow of George Barrett, esq. and they jointly, in 1554, settled the reversion of this manor, after their decease, on Edward Barrett, esq. son of the said Elizabeth, by her first husband, George Barrett, esq. from whom it descended to lord Dacre.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Michael, has a nave, north and south aisles, and chancel: and a square tower, of flint and stone, upon which there was formerly a lofty spire, but it was blown down in the great storm of 1703.†

This church, at first a sinecure rectory, belonged to the abbot and convent of Lesnes, in Kent, till the year 1327, when the first vicar was admitted at the presentation of the rector. But there was no vicarage endowed till 1330, when, at the petition of the convent, Stephen de Gravesend, bishop of London, appropriated the great tithes to them, and endowed a vicarage, reserving the collation to himself and successors for ever. The rectory and great tithes, after the dissolution of the house, were granted to Cardinal Wolsey, on whose præmunire, coming again to the crown, they were granted, by Henry the eighth, to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's.‡

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to seven hundred and thirty-three; and, in 1831, to seven hundred and fifty-eight.

* The part of Keliton, or Kellington, holden by Suecne, is a large farm belonging to sir T. B. Lennard, known by the name of Kennington: also, the ancient family of De Plaiz had four knights' fees in this parish, which Robert and Gilbert le Veyse, the prior of St. John of Jerusalem, and sir Thomas Charvil, held under them. That which the prior of St. John held is now called More Hall, formerly belonging to sir John Cross, bart.

Inscriptions.

† In the chancel, under the figure of a warrior in brass, is a Latin inscription, to inform us that here lieth Radulphus de Knevynton, buried in 1370. And there is a memorial on brass, in ancient characters, to the memory of Charles Barrett, esq. who died the viiith day of August, 1584, aged twenty-nine. Also of many others of the Barrett family; and a memorial inscription in the chancel informs us that Edward Barrett, lord Newburgh, was buried here, Jan. 2, 1644. The name entered in the register is followed by the words "Vir sanctissimus."

Charities.

Lord Newburgh erected an almshouse in this parish in 1639, which, in 1745, having become ruinous, was taken down, and a new one erected by lord Dacre, with the original inscription of *Donum Dei* on the front. The sum of six pounds, out of a farm here, is annually given to the poor of this parish.

‡ There was formerly an endowed chapel near the manor-house of Alveley, named the Chapel de la Lee,

WENINGTON.

This small parish lies on the border of the river Thames, and is bounded westward by that river and the Ingreburne, extending to Rainham northward. It is in length, from east to west, between three and four miles, and in width, from north to south, not much more than one; in circumference about twelve. The village is small, and lies low, near the marshes. Distant from Romford seven, and from London seventeen miles.

Wening-
ton.

Wenington belonged to the abbey of Westminster before the Conquest: in Edward the confessor's confirmation of their possessions, they are said to have four hides in Wuntune, and it is entered in Domesday as one of their manors, and named Wenitun. It was afterwards divided into three manors.

The earliest lord of this manor on record was John de Moresco; and, in 1345, Henry Garnet died in possession of it, holding jointly, with Joan his wife, of the abbot of Westminster, by the service of one hundred shillings per annum; it has since passed through numerous proprietors, and belongs now to — Hopkins, esq.

Wening-
ton Hall.

The house is near the church, on the left-hand side of the road from Alveley to Raynham.

Noke manor-house lies in the marshes, westward from the church, where the river forms a corner or nook, the supposed origin of the name of Nook, or Noke Hall. A family derived their surname from this place, and held possessions here: Thomas at Noke was buried in the church, under the pulpit, with an inscription in Norman French, which has been preserved by Weever: it is without date. In 1320, Robert at Noke, son of Thomas, granted to his brother, Henry at Noke, lands in the marshes of Wenington and Alvithley. In 1457, this manor belonged to John Warner, esq. from whom it was conveyed to William Isle, esq. and successively passed to owners of the names of Pert, and Andrews, to John Barrett, esq. of Belhouse, in 1526, and has remained in possession of his descendants.

Noke.

A manor named Leventhorp, belonging to a family of that name, is mentioned in records, which is understood to have been the purparty of Margaret, younger daughter of sir Henry Garnet; but the name of Leventhorp is now forgotten in this parish.

The church is a good ancient building, dedicated to St. Mary and St. Peter; it has a nave, north aisle, and chancel, with a square embattled tower, and is situated high above the marshes, near the hall.

Church.

The abbot and convent of Westminster had the gift of this rectory till the year 1540, when it was granted, by Henry the eighth, to Thomas Thirleby, bishop of

supposed to have been founded by Adam de Legh, who married Maud, daughter and co-heiress of Gilbert de Tany, lord of Alveley manor; or of John at Lee, who married one of the daughters and co-heiresses of Thomas Belhouse.

BOOK II. Westminster; but on the suppression of that see, queen Mary the first, in 1554, granted the advowson of this living to Edmund Bonner, bishop of London, and it has continued in his successors to the present time.*

The parish of Wenington, in 1821, contained one hundred and twenty eight, and, in 1831, one hundred and twenty-seven inhabitants.

RAINHAM.

Rainham. From Wenington and Alveley south-eastward this parish extends to Ingreburne on the west: from north to south it is about three, and from east to west four miles. The village forms a street of considerable extent, on rising ground, and commanding a view of the Thames, and of the marshes, which are here richly productive, and in summer covered with prodigious flocks of cattle. Distant from Romford five, and from London sixteen miles. The name, written Rainham, Rayneham, Reinham, &c. and, in Domesday, Renelham, is of uncertain origin.

Toward the close of the Saxon era, the possessors of these lands were Alsî, a freeman, Aluard, Lefstan, and a priest. At the general survey, they were the property of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, and his under-tenant Hugh; of Robert Gernon, and his under-tenant Robert; of Walter de Doai, and of Hagheborn. Afterwards they were divided into four manors.

South Hall. The mansion of this manor is in the southern part of the parish, above the marshes, on the left-hand side of the road from Rainham to Wenington. It is the part that belonged to Odo, and, on his degradation, was seized by the crown. In 1254, it was holden of the king by Roger de Crammaville, by the service of wardship at Dover Castle; he died in 1269, and left his son Henry his heir. After passing through numerous owners, all, or part of it, became vested in the prior of St. John of Jerusalem, under whom it was holden by John Goddeston, who died in 1498: sir John Shaw also held the same of the king and the prior at the time of his decease in 1503. In 1520, it became the property of Richard Nix, bishop of Norwich, who falling under a præmunire in the time of king Henry the eighth, forfeited this estate, which the king granted or sold to William Bellamy, in 1551, from whom it afterwards passed to various owners, and became divided into several possessions.

Berwick. The Saxon Bepepic, a country hamlet, was the appropriate name of this place, which has also sometimes been called a parish. The manor-house is nearly two miles north-east from the church, on the left-hand side of the road to Upminster. It was formerly a large building. The lands are what belonged to Robert Gernon, at the

* It appears from the inquisitions, that sir Edward Trussel had the advowson of the living as well as the manor; and though his father might have had the same right, it does not appear from the registry that any but the convent presented. In the window of the north aisle of the church there was formerly the arms of Vere impaling Trussel.

time of the survey, and of course came to William de Montfichet; and was afterwards given, by Gilbert his grandson, to the knights templars; and after the suppression of that order and their successors, the knights hospitallers, this estate was granted, by Henry the eighth, to Cardinal Wolsey, on whose præmunire it again became forfeited to the crown, and was granted to sir Robert Southwell, master of the rolls, who died in 1559; whose son, sir Thomas, sold it, in 1591, to Robert Houghton, esq. and others, whose names are not recorded as owners of this estate; but, in 1644, it had become the property of Ralph Freeman, esq. of Aspenden, in Hertfordshire; and Ralph, his son, in his lifetime, gave it to his son of the same name, who conveyed it to George Finch, esq. of a younger branch of the ancient and noble family of the earls of Winchelsea: William Finch, esq. his son, sold this manor, with other possessions, to sir Thomas Cross, bart. of Westminster, and it is now the property of the rev. John C. G. Cross.*

The mansion of Gerpins, or Gerberville, is nearly two miles north-east from the church. This estate belonged to Walter de Doai at the time of the survey of Domesday. In 1297, Lawrence de Imperville held this estate of the prior of St. John of Jerusalem, and William, his son, died in possession of it in 1337, whose son John was his heir; afterwards, there is no recorded owner of this estate till it was in possession of Daniel Lowen, esq. who died in 1631, and was succeeded by John Lowen, his son.

Gerpins,
or Ger-
berville.

A manor named Lauanders is mentioned in records as having belonged to Walter de Doai; in 1440, it had become the property of John Leventhorp; it belonged to Reginald Bysmere in 1506, and to Richard Herde, who died in 1568, and left his grandson Richard his heir. Dovers, in Hornchurch, extended into this parish.

Lauanders.

The church, dedicated to St. Helen and St. Giles, is a small building of stone, having a nave, chancel, and north and south aisles; the walls are of extraordinary thickness, the pillars square and massy; and the arch in the chancel, and a doorway, are semi-circular, with Norman enrichments. The tower is square, and of stone.

Church.

Richard de Lucy, the founder of this church, gave it to the abbey of Lesnes, in Kent; which, retaining the great tithes, endowed a vicarage, and had the advowson till the dissolution; afterwards it was granted to Cardinal Wolsey, on whose fall it passed to various proprietors.

The vicarage-house having become ruinous, in 1701, Samuel Keckwick, the vicar, purchased a house, garden, and outhouses for the habitation of his successors; and George Finch, esq. at that time patron, at his own charge rebuilt the mansion.

A chantry was founded here by sir John Staunton, for the good estate of Isabel, the mother of king Edward the third; of the founder, and of Alice his wife, &c. It was in the church-yard, and had a chapel, dedicated to All Saints. The revenues of this

Chantry.

* This estate is near Gerpins, and has formerly been named Down Hall.

BOOK II. institution failing, it was, in 1521, dissolved and converted into a free chapel, to be enjoyed by a layman unmarried, who was absolved from the obligation of a chantry priest.*

The number of inhabitants in this parish, in 1821, was five hundred and seventy-three; increased to six hundred and seventy-one in 1831.

WEST THURROCK.

West
Thurrock

West Thurrock is one of three parishes, named in Domesday Turrock,† and distinguished from each other by the additional names of West, Greys, and Little, which last is in Barstable hundred. As the name indicates, this is the most westerly of the three. It is three miles in length, from east to west; two and a half in breadth, from north to south; and fifteen miles in circumference. The village is near the Thames, and inhabited chiefly by persons employed in the chalk-works and in brick-making. Distant from Brentwood, Romford, and Barking, each twelve miles, and from London twenty-four.

This parish, in Edward the confessor's reign, belonged to Alward, Mannic, eleven freemen, and to Ulwin. At the time of the survey, it had come into the possession of Odo, bishop of Bayeux, and his under-tenants, Hugh and Ansetil, and of Tedric Ponitel. There is now only one manor.

West Hall

West Hall, the manor-house, has also been named Le Vynyard, from vines having been cultivated here in ancient times: in modern times it has been named High House, from its situation on the side of a hill, commanding a delightful prospect over the marshes and the river Thames.

After Odo's dispossession of this estate, the next owner was Brianzon, whose successor of the same family, in the reigns of Henry the second and of king John, was Robert de Brianzon, supposed to have been the father of Bartholomew, who was possessed of Alveley in the time of Edward the first, because he is recorded to have had a son named William, who, at the time of his death in 1310, held both Alveley and Thurrock; his brother and heir, John de Brianzon, died in 1315, and was succeeded by his son, sir John de Brianzon, on whose death, in 1337, he left Joanna, his daughter, his heiress, who survived him only two years; after whom, the next possessor was sir William de Wanton, who died in 1347, and was succeeded by his son

* Among the charities here are, thirty shillings a year to fifteen of the poorest and honestest householders of Rainham; and ten shillings to five at Wenington, to be distributed on Easter-day for ever, left by William Heard, in 1593. Mr. Elkin, in 1689, gave twenty pounds to the poor, which was expended in building them almshouses, in 1714. Various persons have also left money to purchase bread to be given to the poor.

† From similarity of sound, the name has been supposed to be from that of Turoid, who held South Okendon under Geoffrey de Mandeville; but it is more reasonably conjectured to be a corrupt pronunciation of Taurus, a bull, their arms being a fesse between three bulls' heads coupée.



William. Afterwards the Bohun family had this estate, and, in 1448, king Henry the sixth having created Richard Wideville lord Rivers, granted him this estate, which, on his death in 1483, descended to his eldest son, Anthony Wideville, who died in 1483, and whose heir was his brother Richard, earl Rivers; on whose death, in 1491, it became the inheritance of Elizabeth, his eldest sister, married first to sir John Grey, and afterwards to king Edward the fourth. This estate afterwards belonged to the Torrell family, from William Torrell, who held it at the time of his death in 1266, till on the death of Humphrey Torrell, in 1544, his only daughter and heiress conveyed it, in marriage, to Henry Joscelyn, esq. fourth son of sir Thomas Joscelyn, of Hyde Hall.

In 1543, sir William Hollis died, holding this estate of the king; and his son of the same name, in 1547, conveyed it to Robert Tavernier, from whom it passed to Robert Long, who died possessed of it in 1551.

In 1607, Christopher Holford died possessed of this estate, which continued in his descendants till it was conveyed, by the marriage of Martha, daughter and co-heiress of Christopher Holford, to sir Henry Heyman, bart. in 1643. Successive owners were Benjamin Desbrow, son of major-general Desbrow, who sold it to Caleb Grantham, esq. from whose descendants it passed, by marriage, to John Sear, esq. of the Grove, near Tring, in Hertfordshire. This estate now belongs to W. H. Whitbread, esq.; and High House, the manorial mansion, is the property of John Freeman, esq.

The pleasant and populous village of Purfleet is a manor and hamlet in this parish, on rising ground, where the country opens out in extensive and varied prospects; northward, a woody tract, with Warley and Brentwood hills, interspersed with villages and gentlemen's seats, and farm-houses; in the immediate vicinity numerous romantic scenes are formed, by the high projecting chalk rocks, interspersed with deep and extensive caverns, peculiar to this part of the coast. The rivulet that passes by Stifford falls into the Thames here, and a little harbour is formed, which is full of shipping business and animation; added to which, the surrounding rustic scenery, and, in the distance, the opposite coast of Kent, compose a picture peculiarly interesting, as viewed from the eminence of the Beacon cliff that overlooks the village. A considerable number of the labouring population find employment in the lime and chalk pits belonging to William Henry Whitbread, esq.* An extensive gunpowder

* "Upon this gentleman's estate," says Mr. Young, "there is a bold cliff of chalk, covered by many feet of surface loam: from the magnitude of the excavation, it had probably been wrought for many years; but Mr. Whitbread gave a new appearance to the place, and fresh vigour to the works, by laying down iron railways for every purpose of carting; twenty-five horses used to be constantly employed, and since these railways have been made, four do the work, and twenty-one are dismissed. One horse draws five or six waggons loaded. These railways lead to the bottom of the cliff, to receive loam and chalk, shovelled down into large wooden hoppers, which pour it at once into the carts, by means of the skeleton chalk

BOOK II. magazine has been established here by government, where that combustible substance is deposited in detached and well-protected buildings, which are bomb-proof, and each having an electrical conductor. There is also a handsome house with gardens, for the use of the board of ordnance.

Church. The church is a very ancient building of stone, consisting of a nave and north and south aisles, with a chancel, which has also two aisles. At the west-end there is a remarkably strong stone tower.

This church was the endowment of one of the seven prebends, founded in the collegiate church within the castle of Hastings, in Sussex. The prebendary was rector, and had the great tithes, and presented to the vicarage. After the dissolution of religious houses, it was granted to sir Anthony Browne, whose son, Anthony Viscount Montacute, in 1567, sold it to Henry Joscelyn, and Anne his wife; and it has since gone with the capital manor.

The population of this manor, in 1821, amounted to eight hundred and twenty-nine; and, in 1831, to eight hundred and four.*

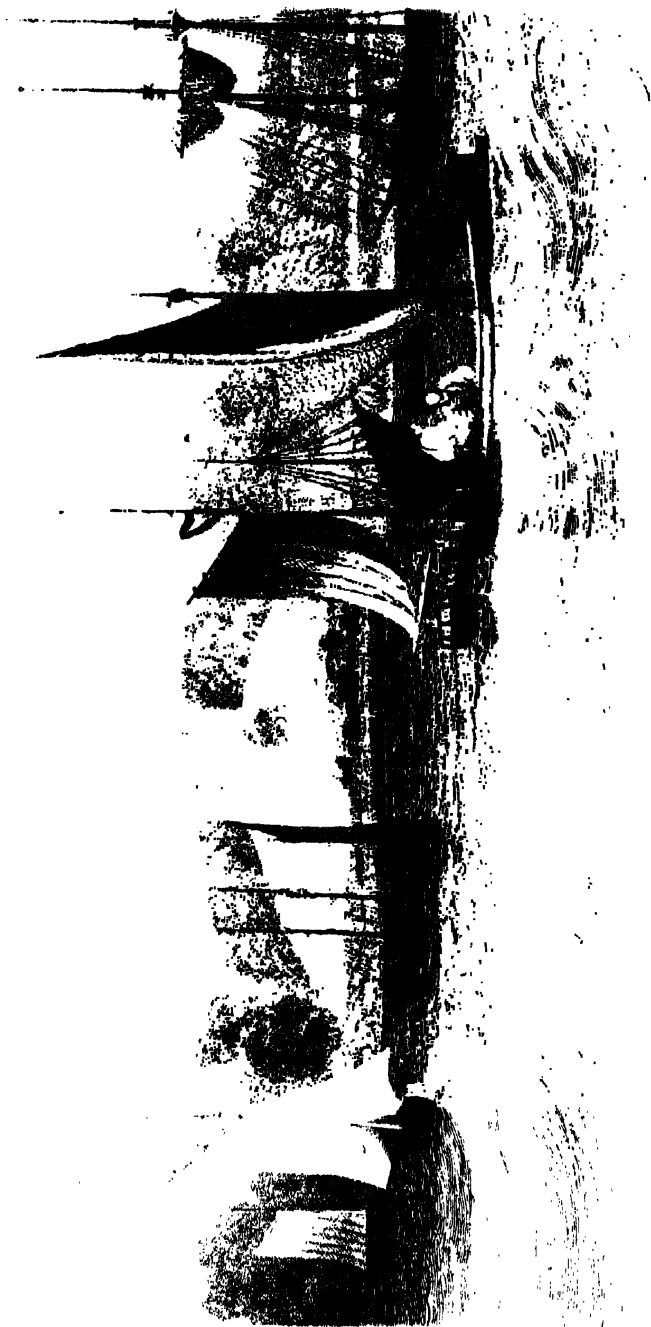
GRAYS, OR GREYS THURROCK.

Greys Thurrock. This parish occupying the south-eastern extremity of the hundred, is two miles from east to west, and nearly the same from north to south; it has been sometimes named Great Thurrocks, and received its distinguishing appellation of Greys from the noble family of that name, who were in possession of it above three hundred years.

The town consists principally of one street, irregularly built, extending along a small creek on the border of the Thames. A charter for a weekly market to be held on Fridays (since altered to Thursday) was procured by Richard de Grey, in the time of king Henry the third; and a fair yearly, on the 28th and 29th of June, altered to May 23, and October 20. This grant was confirmed by Edward the third, in 1330. There is a free-school, established by William Palmer, esq.; in 1706, endowed with lands and tenements in trust, to maintain a master to teach ten poor children to read, write, and cast accounts; and to instruct them in the Latin tongue. A house is provided for the master, and a school-room. Large quantities of bricks are manufactured here, and sent to London in barges kept solely for that purpose. Distance from Brentwood twelve, and from London twenty-one miles.

Before the Conquest, the lands of this parish belonged to Harold and Almar, and, rock being left in forms that conduct to it. Ways lead hence also for delivering the broken chalk directly to the kilns, which for this purpose are built in a deeper excavation; and coals are also distributed by other ways. From the kilns distinct iron roads lead also to the shipping, for delivery of the lime; and the waggons are backed to the ship or barge side, and unloaded at once, by tilting them up."—*Gen. View of the Agriculture of Essex*, vol. ii. p. 224.

* A ferry across the Thames to Greenhithe has lately been established here, which is much used for the conveyance of carriages and cattle.



at the time of the survey, were in the possession of the earl of Eu, and William Piperell; seven houses in London being annexed to the earl's manor. Five sochmen, Gislebert, tenant of the bishop of Bayeux, and Anschetil, tenant of the bishop of London, had at that time some lands here.

The mansion of the capital manor on the right hand side of the road to Stifford. Manor.
The estate having become vested in the crown, was granted, in 1194, by Richard the first, to Henry de Grey, to whom it was confirmed by king John, with the special privilege of hunting the hare and fox, in any lands belonging to the crown, except in the parks of the king's own demesne. This Henry was progenitor of the noble families of the Greys of Codnoure, Wilton, Ruthin, and Rothesfield. He married Isolda, neice and co-heiress of Robert Bardolfe; and his eldest son Richard was sheriff of this county, and of Hertfordshire, in 1238. Joining the discontented barons against king Henry the third, he was taken prisoner at Kenilworth, and his lands were seized, but afterwards restored. John de Grey, his son, died in 1271; whose grandson Richard, died in 1335, also holding this manor, then first named Thurrocks Grey, of Thomas Plantagenet, earl of Lancaster, by the service of one knight's fee: his eldest son John, was his successor, who mortgaged it to Stephen Gravesend, bishop of London; in 1392, it had become the possession of Joan Cobham, lady de Grey; and Henry de Grey, of Codnoure, held it at the time of his decease in 1443: he married Elizabeth, daughter and co-heiress of Ralph, lord Basset, of Sapcote, by whom he had his son Henry. Katharine Grey, widow of sir William Berkley, (who died in 1521,) held this estate of the king, as of his honour of Mandeville, parcel of the duchy of Lancaster: sir John Stourton, lord Stourton, her cousin, being her next heir. In 1564, sir John Zouch was lord of this manor; succeeded by Thomas Kighley, esq. a descendant of the Kighleys of Littleton, in Worcestershire; whose son, Thomas, sold it to William Palmer, esq. whose son, by his wife Anne, third daughter of sir Robert Smith, knt. and bart. of Upton, had William, his son and heir, who, in 1710, dying without issue, gave this manor to Joshua Palmer, esq. son of Dr. Palmer, of Devonshire, on account of the name, there being no relationship between them: his son and heir was Ashley Palmer, esq. of Eaton Soken, in Bedfordshire: it belonged afterwards to James Theobalds, esq. and now to Thomas Theobald, esq.

Peverells, is the name of a manor entered in Domesday, which, by marriage of Margaret, daughter and heiress of William Peverell, was conveyed to the family of Ferrers: it afterward became united to the estate which now belongs to Messrs. Meeson and Hinton. Peverells.

Belmont Castle, the elegant seat of Richard Webb, esq. is a mile from the town, and forms a picturesque object on the summit of an eminence, which rises abruptly from the banks of the Thames: it was formerly the country residence of Zachariah Belmont Castle.

BOOK II. Button, esq. who finished it in a costly style of architecture. The building, besides other convenient apartments, contains a spacious circular room, called the round tower, handsomely finished, and which affords delightful and extensive prospects of the river, the shipping, and the rich Kentish inclosures, to the hills beyond the great Dover road; an elegant drawing-room, measuring twenty feet by eighteen, with a circular front, richly ornamented: and a library-room, fitted up in the most elegant manner; from this apartment a double flight of stone-steps descend to the terrace, fronting the great lawn, and in full view of the river. Lofty walls surround a very extensive kitchen-garden, with a capital hot-house, and a choice selection of the best fruit-trees. Surrounding the house are the pleasure-grounds, which are tastefully disposed, and ornamented with forest-trees, of great value and of beautiful forms: shrubs and plants terminate toward the west by a gothic temple, and toward the east by an orchard and paddock. There are two approaches to the house; the one by a neat, brick gothic lodge, through the great south lawn, from the road between West Thurrock and Grays; and the other from the village of Stifford, by the north lawn.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, is built in the form of a cross; the tower being at the north side, between the nave and chancel.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to seven hundred and forty-two, and, in 1831, to one thousand two hundred and forty-eight.

STIFFORD.

Stifford. A ford over the brook which, in its course toward the Thames at Purfleet, waters this parish, is believed to have been the origin of its name. It is in length from north to south three, and in breadth, from east to west, one mile and a quarter. The village is small and pleasantly situated, containing some good houses. Distant from Brentwood ten, and from London twenty-five miles.

In the confessor's reign, these lands belonged to Aluric, Alwin, and the nunnery of Barking; and at the survey, to Odo, bishop of Bayeux, whose under-tenants were Hugh, and the son of Tuold. Afterwards, the parish was divided into two manors.

**Manor of
Stifford.**

Stifford Hall is a short distance from the church, eastward. Of its earliest recorded possessors, were William de Crammaville in 1199, and John Hamme, who died in 1319; Robert, his son, was his heir: after whom the accounts are obscure, till, in 1433, William Ardale of this place, was returned a gentleman of Essex; his ancestors for many generations had been lords of this manor; and John Ardale, who died in 1504, left Thomasine, his daughter and heiress, who, by marriage, conveyed the estate to Robert, second son of Hugh Latham, whose family retained this possession many years. It afterwards belonged to Richard May, and to James Silverlock, esq. who sold it to Nathaniel Grantham, of the Granthams of West Thurrock: he died in 1708; Kenrick Grantham, esq. was his son; after whom, the next possessor was Isaac

Thorley, who sold this estate to Andrew Goodwin, whose son Henry sold it, in 1738, to Henry Barret, of Southwark; and he gave it with his daughter in marriage to Richard Cook, of Foster Lane, London; from whom it passed, under a mortgage of Kenrick Grantham's, to John Archer Shish, esq. and he afterwards sold Ford House, or Place, to Captain Dodsworth. This manor formerly belonged to the Embroiderers' Company of London, and lately to Dr. Hogarth.

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The mansion of Flethall or Clays, is a mile north-east from the church, on the east side of the brook. This manor is not mentioned till the time of Henry the seventh, when it appears to have belonged to the Bruyn family, of South Okendon, from whom it passed, by female heirship, to various proprietors; but the accounts are confused and uncertain. Ford Place is the principal mansion in the parish, late the residence of the rev. Dr. Hogarth.

Flet Hall,
or Clays.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, has a nave and south aisle, and the chancel a chapel on the south. The tower has a shingled spire.

Church.

In 1821, this parish contained two hundred and sixty and, in 1831, two hundred and seventy-four inhabitants.

SOUTH OKENDON.

This is one of two parishes distinguished from each other by the appellations of south and north, in reference to their situations. In records, the name is written Okingdon, Wokendon, Lockington, and in Domesday, Wochaduna. South Okendon has been named Rokele, from ancient owners, and Ad Turrin, from its tower-steeple. It extends four miles every way, and is separated from the hundred of Barstable, by the rivulet that has its source in Warley and Dunton.

South
Okendon

The village is small but of respectable appearance, and, besides the church, contains chapels belonging to the Independents and Wesleyan Methodists. Distant from Romford eight, and from London eighteen miles.

Frebert, a thane, was the owner of this parish at the close of the Saxon era; and, at the survey, it formed part of the possessions of Geoffrey de Magnaville. It has been divided into two manors.

The capital mansion was a stately building, of great antiquity, encompassed by a moat, near the church, on the road to Warley and Brentwood. This estate was holden of Geoffrey de Mandeville by Hugh de Ou, in the time of Henry the second, and sir Richard de la Rokele, supposed to have been the descendant of Hugh, died holding it in 1222; it remained in the same family till, by the marriage of Isolda, daughter and co-heiress of Philip de la Rokele,* it was conveyed to her husband, sir William de Brune, or Bruyn, knight of the bed-chamber to king Edward the first. Isolda was made lady of the bed-chamber to queen Alinore, and enjoying a consi-

* Arms of Rokele: Lozengy, gules.

BOOK II. derable degree of court favour, the family acquired large possessions. In 1400, sir Ingleram Bruyn died holding this manor of the countess of Hereford, by the service of one knight's fee and a half; leaving Elizabeth, his widow, daughter and co-heiress of Edmund de la Pole, who held a third of the manor till her decease in 1406. Maurice was their son and heir, succeeded by his son, sir Henry Bruyn, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Darcy, esq. of Maldon, by whom he had his co-heiresses, Alice, wife of Robert Harleston, esq. and Elizabeth, married to Thomas Tyrell, son of sir Thomas Tyrell, of Heron.* The estate, parcelled out between these co-heiresses, was divided into two manors.

Bruyns. Bruyns manor was Elizabeth's portion, whose three husbands were William Matory, esq. Thomas Tyrell, esq. and sir William Brandon, standard-bearer to king Henry the seventh at Bosworth-field, where he was slain by the hand of Richard the third: he was father to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, said to have been born here. The Tyrell family were owners of this estate many years; succeeded by William Petre, esq. of Stanford Rivers, who sold it to Jasper Kingsman, of Arden Hall, in Horndon on the Hill, whose family was succeeded by John Spence, esq. of Stifford: afterwards, this estate belonged to John Cliff, esq. It is now in the occupation of T. B. Sturgeon, esq.

Groves. Alice's portion was named Groves: her three husbands were Robert Harleston, esq. sir John Heningham, and William Berners, esq.; the first of these left issue, but king Richard the third, on the attainder of William Brandon, restored a moiety of this manor to sir John Heningham, with the advowson of the church; on whose death, in 1499, he left his son, John Harleston, his heir, at that time under age; this family enjoyed the estate a considerable time, as did also their successors the Saltonstalls.† In 1688, Philip Saltonstall, lord of this manor, was killed by a fall from his horse, in the thirty-third year of his age. He had six children, of whom Philip, the eldest son and heir, married Sarah, daughter of sir Capel Lukyn, bart. of Messing, who was afterwards re-married to Dacre Barret Lennard, esq. of Alveley. By her husband, Saltonstall, she had Phillippa, who was married to John Goodere, esq. of Claybury, to whom she conveyed this estate. This estate is now the property of John Henry Stewart, esq.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, has a nave and north and south aisles; and the chancel has a north chapel. The chief doorway has a Norman arch, of elaborate workmanship; and there is a round tower embattled. Formerly a wooden spire rose above this tower, but it was burnt down by lightning, in 1638. A gallery has been erected in the west end of this church.‡

* Arms of Bruyn: Azure, a cross moline, or.

† Arms of Saltonstall: Or, a bend dexter, between two eaglets displayed, sable.

‡ There are or were inscriptions to the memory of the following persons:—Sir Ingram Bruyn, who died August 12, 1409; Gilbert Saltonstall, who died 17th Nov. 1595; sir Richard Saltonstall, knt. who died in 1601; Philip Saltonstall, who died 14th Sept. 1688.

After the division of the manor, the advowson of the rectory became alternate in the possessors of either portion. The whole of the advowson afterwards belonged to George Leith, esq.; and — Caff, esq. lately died in possession of it.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to seven hundred and seventy-seven; and, in 1831, to eight hundred and sixteen.

NORTH OKENDON.

This lies north of the last-described parish, and is in records named Wokyndon Septem Fontium, either from an owner of that surname, or from seven springs formerly situated here. It is in length three miles, from north to south; and in breadth two, from east to west. Distant from Romford seven, and from London seventeen miles. *

North
Okendon.

The village contains few houses, of which North Okendon Hall is a lofty building, of apparent antiquity, partly modernised: it is on an eminence, commanding a richly varied prospect.

Earl Harold had this possession previous to the Conquest, and, at the time of the survey, it belonged to the abbey of St. Peter, at Westminster, under whom a part of it was holden by William the chamberlain. From 1086 to 1315, the records are silent respecting this estate, which, in 1316, belonged to John Malgreffe, from whom it passed through several proprietors to the family of Pointz, originally of Tokington, in Gloucestershire,* whose descendants retained possession till it was conveyed by Katharine, daughter and heiress of sir Gabriel Pointz, to her husband, sir John Morrice, of Cheping Ongar. Afterwards, by various intermarriages, this estate passed to the family of Lyttleton, descendants of the celebrated judge and author, sir Thomas Lyttleton,† and to Richard Benyon, esq. and now belongs to sir Charles Hulse, bart. of Lincoln's-inn-fields, London.

* Thomas Pointz, esq. who died in 1532, held this manor of the queen; and it is said of him, that for his most faithful service to his prince (king Edward the sixth) and his ardent profession of the truth of the gospel, he suffered bonds and imprisonment beyond sea, and was destined to death, if he had not wonderfully escaped out of prison by divine assistance. He married Anne Van Calva, daughter and co-heiress of John Calva, esq. a German, by whom he had, besides other children, sir Gabriel Pointz, who was high sheriff of Essex in 1577 and 1580, and died in 1607, leaving by his wife Etheldred, daughter of William Cutts, esq. of Arksden, Thomas, who died unmarried; and Katharine, sole heiress to this estate. Arms of Pointz: Or, barry of eight, or and gules.

† Thomas Pointz, otherwise Lyttleton, by will gave this estate to his lady for life; but having no issue, left it after her to his great nephew, James Lyttleton, esq. of Longueville, in Surrey, whose son James, bred to the sea, became at length vice-admiral of the white, and was also member of parliament for Woodstock, Chichester and Portsmouth. He died in 1722, and was buried in this church, the admirals Jennings, Wager, Norris, Hosier, De Vall, and Strickland, supporting his pall. Arms of Lyttleton-Pointz: Argent, a chevron sable, between three escallops of the second.

BOOK II.

Stubbers.

Stubbers, an ancient seat or capital messuage in this parish, is about half a mile from the church; it formerly belonged to a family of Welch original, named Coys.* It afterwards was purchased by sir William Russel, knt. of Worcestershire, and now belongs to William Russel, esq.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, has a nave and north aisle, and the chancel a north chapel; the tower is of flint and stone.†

In 1821, the number of inhabitants in this parish amounted to three hundred and twenty-five; and, in 1831, to two hundred and ninety-four.

CRANHAM.

Cranham.

The small parish of Cranham is about three miles in length, and not more than half a mile broad. The village is distant from Brentwood five, and from London sixteen miles.

This parish, with the two Qkendons, were formerly united, forming a district named Okendon, or Wokendon; and, at the time when the division into three lordships took place, this portion was named Wokendon Episcopi, on account of its belonging to the bishop of London; its name of Cranham is not found in records till the time of Edward the fourth.

Cranham Hall.

The mansion of Cranham Hall is an ancient building, near the church. The manor, after having belonged to the families of Curson, Trendle, Selman, and Mordaunt, was purchased by sir William Petre, who died in 1571; and Francis Petre, esq. his descendant, sold it to Nathan Wright, esq. son of John Wright, of Kelvedon Hatch, who died in 1657; and his family retained this possession till it was conveyed in marriage with Elizabeth, daughter and heiress of sir Nathan Wright,‡ to James Oglethorp, of Westbrook Place, in Surrey, general of his majesty's forces. The general, after having witnessed the establishment of the independence of America, which he had assisted to accomplish, and having himself settled that of Georgia, in

* Gwillim ap Jenkins, alias Herbert, of Guorney, in Monmouthshire, by his wife Gwenlian, daughter and heiress of William Howell, ap Jovan ap Howell, had issue John ap Gwillim, and Thomas ap Gwillim, alias Herbert. John was father of Roger Coys, of London, who, by Joan his wife, daughter of Robert Warren, of Thurlow, in Suffolk, had William Coys, esq. of North Okendon, who married Mary, daughter of Giles Alleyn, esq. of Haseley Hall: of their eight sons and six daughters, Giles Coys, esq. the eldest son, was their heir.

Inscriptions.

† There are inscriptions in this church to the memory of William Coys, of Stubbers, who died 6th March, 1627; and of Mary his wife, who died 13th March, 1617: of sir Thomas Pointz, otherwise Lytleton, bart. who died 12th April, 1681, and many others of the same family.

Charity.

In 1640, Richard Pointz, esq. left two hundred pounds to purchase land for the poor, with which the trustees purchased a farm of forty acres, called Stedding Hill, in Horndon-on-the-hill. He also gave fifty pounds to purchase communion plate.

‡ Arms of Wright: Azure, two bars, argent, in chief three leopard's faces, or. Crest: Out of a ducal coronet, or, a dragon's head issuant, proper.

1732, died in 1785, aged one hundred and three. He was survived by his widow, on whose decease the estate became the property of sir Thomas Hussey Aprece, bart. of Washingley, in Huntingdonshire.

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The church is a plain ancient building, dedicated to All Saints.*

Church.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and eighty-nine; and, in 1831, to three hundred.

UPMINSTER.

This large parish is bounded by Raynham on the south, by South Weald on the north, by Cranham and the Warleys on the east, and on the west by the Ingreburne: it measures seven miles in length, from north to south; and in breadth, from east to west, does not exceed one mile.†

Upminster.

The village is in a pleasant part of the parish, surrounded by capital mansions and elegant plantations. There is a chapel for dissenters here. Distant from Hornchurch two, and from London sixteen miles.

The Saxon *Mynster*, generally signifies a cathedral or collegiate church, yet it is sometimes applied to a parish church, and the addition of Up here, is considered to denote its elevated situation. It is divided into north and south. Previous to the Conquest, these lands belonged to Waltham Abbey, to Suene, Suart, and Ulwin: and, at the general survey, the possessors were Walter de Doai; Odo, bishop of Bayeux, and the said abbey.

The mansion of Gaines is half a mile south from the church, near Gaines Cross. This estate being what originally belonged to Walter de Doai's family, includes the greater part of the parish. In the time of king John, it had become the property of William de Courteney, whose heirs were William de Cantelupe, baron of Bergavenny, and Vitalis Engaine, lord of Blatherwick, in Northamptonshire; and on a partition of the estates, this, with other manors, became the property of the Engaine family,‡ in which it continued till sometime after the year 1318, when it was conveyed to the family of Havering, and was holden by Lora, wife of sir John de Havering, till her decease in 1393: afterwards, sir John Deyncourt,§ obtained a grant of this manor, which is supposed to have been conveyed in marriage with his daughter Ellyn,

Gaines.

* There are inscriptions in the church to the memory of many of the family of Wright. Sir Nathan Wright gave two almshouses in St. Mary's Lane.

† The northern part of this parish is on a somewhat rising ground, and the soil stiff and clayey, but the more level southern division is light and sandy. Average annual produce per acre: wheat twenty-four, barley forty, beans forty.

‡ Arms of Engaine: Azure, a fesse dancette, or, between six cross crosslets of the second.

§ He was of the noble family of d'Encourt, descended from Walter, who came with William the conqueror. His son Roger died in 1455, and is buried with his wife Elizabeth, under the arch, between the chancel and north chapel.

BOOK II. to Nicholas Wayte, citizen of London. It afterwards belonged to Ralph Latham, esq. a descendant of the ancient family of that name in Lancashire, who were lords of this place from the time of Richard the first to the latter end of the reign of Edward the third, when Isabel, only daughter and heiress of sir Thomas Latham, by her marriage to sir John Stanley, conveyed it to the noble family of Stanley, earl of Derby. This estate, in 1587, was in the possession of Gerard d'Ewes, son of Adrian d'Ewes, descended from the ancient lords of Kessel, in Gelderland, who settled in England in the commencement of the reign of Henry the eighth. He died in 1592, leaving his son Paul* his heir, from whom it was re-conveyed to the family of Latham. In 1721, this manor was sold to Mr. Amos White; and afterwards belonged to sir James Esdaile, knt. who had an elegant seat, nearly a mile north-east from the church. But it was pulled down several years ago, and the park and grounds sold in lots.

Upmin-
ster Hall.

This manor was one of the seventeen given by earl Harold to Waltham Abbey, and on that account was formerly named Waltham Hall. It was confirmed to the abbey by Edward the confessor, Henry the second, Richard the first, and Henry the third, and in *Cartæ Antiquæ*, it is called one hundred and four acres. The abbey was possessed of it at the general survey.†

Upminster Hall was probably a retiring place, or hunting seat, for the abbot; and he had a chapel here of stone, which yet remains, with a font for the use of his tenants and dependants. There was also a cemetery, as appears from human bones having been dug up where the garden now is. The house is pleasantly situated, a mile north from the church, commanding fine prospects over parts of Essex and Kent.

After the dissolution of abbeys, this estate was granted to Thomas Cromwell, earl of Essex; and passing, on his attainder, to the crown, was granted to Ralph Latham; from whose son William, it passed to William Strangeman and others in 1563. It belonged afterwards to Roger James, who died in 1596, and, in 1641, it belonged to Ralph Latham, esq. common-serjeant, whose son sold it to Juliana, viscountess dowager Campden, who settled it on herself for life; remainder to Henry, second son of Baptist Noel, (grandson and heir-apparent to Edward, lord Campden,) who died

* This Paul bought Stow Hall, in Suffolk, which he made the place of his residence. The learned sir Symonds d'Ewes, knt. and bart. of Stow Hall, was his son. The family became extinct on the death of sir Jermyu d'Ewes.

† The bounds of this lordship are particularly described in the *Monasticon*, as follows—"Eperit at Tigelhýrte 7uð 7opape Marcðice. of pape dice Weyt in Ingceburne. of pape byrne norð in to Beccengape. of Beccengape norð and lang pape Waldyrpate into Stangape. of Stangape norð into Manuey Lande. of Manney land eyt into Tigelhýrte," i. e. "First at Tigelhyrste south toward Marc-dike, from that dike west in Ingceburn, and from that burn north to Beccengare; and from Beccengare north along the Wald-street to Stangare; from Stangare north into mannes land, from mannes land again to Tigelhyrste."

in 1677, and left this estate to his brother Edward, afterwards earl of Gainsborough, who retained possession till 1685, when it was sold, under a decree in chancery, to captain Andrew Branfill,* whose descendant, Champion Edward Branfill, esq. is the present owner.

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The lands which, in the Confessor's reign, belonged to Ulwin, and to bishop Odo at the survey, were on the most southerly part of this parish, and extended into the parish of Alveley, forming part of the manor of Bumsted along the eastern side, through Corbet's Tye, as far as New Place. This is a nominal manor, eastward from the church; its name was to distinguish it from Gaines, the ancient residence of the lords of this manor. The old house has been pulled down, and a new one erected, which is the residence of Thomas Boyce, esq.

New
Place.

A manorial estate is named Bridge House, on account of its situation by the bridge over the brook; it extends into the parish of Hornchurch. It belonged to John de Reydon in 1375, and to a succession of ancient proprietors; and became the property of Ralph Latham, from whom it passed with the capital manor.

Bridge
House.

Corbet's Tye is a hamlet near Gaines, which derives its name from an ancient owner, and the Saxon *tyg*, inclosure; it is pleasantly situated, and consists principally of the houses of labourers.

Corbet's
Tye.

The church is a handsome, ancient building, with a spire, ivy-mantled. It is dedicated to St. Lawrence, and has a nave, north aisle, and chancel, on the north side of which there is a chapel, erected by sir John Engaine, for the burial-place of his family, and named Gaines chapel; it was also named St. Mary's, being dedicated to that saint, and the lane behind it also received the same name.† The burial-place of the Latham family was also here; and "Hamlet Clarke, gent. whose second wife was Alice, mother of Ralph Latham, esq. (who married Mary, only daughter of the said Hamlet,) out of his pious devotion to the honour of God, did, at his sole charge, repair and beautify this chapel, A.D. 1630."‡ Some time after the year 1770, having become ruinous, it was taken down, and re-built by sir James Esdaile; who built also within it a cemetery for himself and family.

Church.

* He was of Dartmouth, in Devonshire, of a seafaring family; and, at the age of nineteen, became commander of a ship, in which occupation, by his industry, he acquired a considerable fortune. The name is supposed to have originally been Bampfield, the arms of both families being the same. In 1681, he married Damaris, eldest daughter of John Aylet, of Kelvedon Hatch, son of the heroic captain Aylet, of Magdalen Laver: he died in 1709, having had, besides several other children, Champion Branfill, esq. his eldest son and heir, who was high-sheriff of Essex in 1734, and whose heir was his son of the same name. Arms of Branfill: Or, on a bend gules, three estoiles argent.

† Among the inscriptions in this church are memorials of the following: Rayffe Latham, esq. lord of Upminstre, who deceased xix July, 1457; also Elizabeth his wife. Nicholas Wayte, who died 7th Aug. 1544, and his wife Elleyn, who died in 1545; Hamlet Clarke, and Alice his second wife.

Inscrip-
tions.

‡ In the building of this vault, a coffin of one of the Latham family, interred there one hundred and fifty years before, was broken open, and the body found free from any appearance of decay.

BOOK II.

The steeple and part of the church were fired by lightning and defaced, but afterwards repaired: and the north aisle having gone to decay, was rebuilt, with money raised by a general subscription.*

In 1821, this parish contained nine hundred and fifty-two, and, in 1831, one thousand and thirty inhabitants.

GREAT WARLEY.

Great
Warley.

The two parishes named Warley,† are separated from each other by the stream that, passing by Bulvan Fen, flows into the Thames. The extent of this parish, from north to south, is seven miles; and from east to west, does not exceed one. The village is nearly two miles in length, and the houses considerably distant from each other. Distant from Brentwood two, and from London sixteen miles.‡

Before the Conquest, this lordship belonged to the abbess of Barking, and on that account, besides its present name, has also been named Abbess Warley. There are two manors.

Manor of
Great
Warley.

The manor of Great Warley, both before and after the Conquest, belonged to the abbess of Barking. The mansion was behind the church, and the farm-house belonging to the estate is named Pound House. The court meets at an alehouse on Warley Common. After the dissolution of monasteries, this estate, in 1539, was granted to William Gonson, who died possessed of it in 1544. He was succeeded by his son Christopher, whose successor was his son Benjamin; on whose decease, in 1577, his son of the same name was his heir, who died in 1600, and left his four daughters his co-heiresses, among whom the estate was divided; and from their connexions, the Fleming and the Evelyn families had this possession; which, in 1655, was sold, by some of the Evelyn family, to John Hart, merchant, of whom it was purchased, in 1669, by Rowland Winne, merchant, of London, son of Edmund Winne, esq. of Thornton, in Lincolnshire, younger brother to sir George Winne, of Nostell Abbey, in Yorkshire. At his death, he gave this estate to his two nephews, and on the death of either to the survivor, from whom it descended to the hon. George Winne, afterwards lord Head-

* The learned and pious Dr. William Derham was rector of this parish, from 1699 to 1735. He was born at Stowton, near Worcester, in 1657, and educated at Trinity College, Oxford; was chaplain to Katharine, lady dowager Grey of Warke; presented to this living in 1689; installed canon of Windsor in 1716; and, by diploma from the University of Oxford, created D.D. in 1730. He was one of the most useful members of the Royal Society, to which he made numerous interesting and valuable communications. By Anne, his wife, aunt to George Scott, of Chigwell, he had several children, of whom the eldest was William Derham, D.D. who died president of St. John's College, Oxford.

† The name is by Salmon derived from the word *ward*, there having been, as he supposes, a watch or ward kept here for the security of travellers, in the time of the Saxons.

‡ The soil strong and heavy, on clay. Average annual produce, wheat, twenty-four; barley, forty bushels per acre. The prospects from various parts of this parish, and of Little Warley, are extremely beautiful and extensive.



ley, one of the barons of the Court of Exchequer in Scotland. It now belongs to Rowland Winne, esq. grandson of lord Headley.

CHAP.
XV.

The mansion of Warley Franks is about a mile south-west from the church. The name of the owner of this estate in Edward the confessor's time was Godric; and, at the survey, it belonged to Suene of Essex. Hugh, his grandson, was his heir, who forfeiting this with his other estates to the crown, it was granted to Hubert de Burgh, earl of Kent, in 1226. Francis de Scoland is the next recorded possessor, from whom the name of Franks is supposed to have been derived to this estate: he was succeeded by his son and grandson, of the same name; after whom, the estate was sometimes divided, and sometimes entire, till, in 1589, Thomas Drywood purchased several shares, and became possessed of the whole, which, in 1604, his son, William Drywood, sold to Nicholas Fuller, esq. of Gray's Inn; and his son, Dowce Fuller, sold it to Thomas Gundrey, esq. of Chingford; it passed from him to his heirs, and to several successive proprietors; and now belongs to lieut.-general sir Colquhoun Grant, K.C.B.

Warley
Franks.

Great Warley Place is the seat of lieut.-general Bonham; and Warley House is the seat of sir J. H. English.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is an ancient building of brick. The steeple was some time ago burnt down by lightning, but has been supplied with a wooden belfry, above which there is a small spire, of one piece of wood.

Church.

The population of this parish, in 1821, was five hundred and twenty-one, and, in 1831, had decreased to four hundred and twenty-four.

LITTLE WARLEY.

This parish extends from Great Warley eastward; and is sometimes named East Warley. The village is small: distant from Brentwood three, and from London seventeen miles.

Little
Warley.

We are informed, by the most ancient records relative to this parish, that it belonged to the church of St. Paul, but had been taken from it, and was in the possession of a Saxon named Guest, some time before the Conquest; after which, it was given by the Conqueror to William, bishop of London, whose successors retained possession of it till the year 1327.

From William de Semeles, who had this manor in 1357, it passed to the Burnel family; and, in succession, became the property of Sewall Michel, of Canewdon, in 1361; and of sir Thomas Tyrell, in 1363; from whose descendants it passed to sir Denner Strutt, knt. created a baronet in 1641, and styled of Little Warley Hall. His first wife was Dorothy, daughter of Francis Strasmere, esq. of Folresworth, in Leicestershire, member of parliament for that county in the first parliament of Charles the first; she died in 1641. His second wife was Elizabeth, daughter of sir Thomas Woodhouse, of Kimberley; and his third was Mary, daughter and heiress of Thomas

Little
Warley
Hall.

BOOK II. Chapman, esq. of London; she died in 1654. By his second wife, sir Denner left two daughters, co-heiresses; Anne, the younger, was married to William Samwell, of Watton, in Norfolk; and Blanche, the elder, was the wife of Thomas Bennet, esq. of Wiltshire, a relation of lord Ossulston. The Bennet family enjoyed this estate many years, and were succeeded by John Fisher, esq. of Brentwood. It now belongs to Rowland Winne, esq. Warley Lodge, a newly-erected mansion in this parish, also belongs to Mr. Winne.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a small ancient building. The tower was rebuilt of brick in 1718. The living has been in the gift of the ancient family of Tyrell, of Heron, ever since the year 1382.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to one hundred and seventy-nine; and, in 1831, had diminished to one hundred and sixty-three.

CHILDERDITCH.

Childerditch. This parish lies south-east from Brentwood, on the boundary of Barstable hundred. It is in length between four and five miles, and in width nearly one. Distant from Brentwood three, and from London nineteen miles.

In the reign of Edward the confessor, the lands of this parish were divided into three estates, of which one was the property of Herbert, and afterwards of the queen; another belonged to a freewoman named Alwen; and a freeman named Ongar had the remaining portion: Suene, and his under-tenant Osbern, and Sasseline, and the sheriff of Surrey, were the holders of these lands at the time of the survey. They were afterwards divided into the two manors of Childerditch Hall, and Tillingham.

Childerditch Hall Childerditch Hall is near the church: this manor is what at the survey belonged to the king, and was in the hands of the sheriff of Surrey. It continued in the crown till the reign of Henry the eighth, who granted it to sir Thomas Seymour. He had also the manor of Tillingham Hall: the mansion of which is a mile south-east from the church, the lands extending into the parish of South Weald. A parish in this county is named Tillingham, and Richard de Tillingham held two fees here, which Robert de Tillebury held in 1165, as did also Richard de Tillebury, in 1275: probably the name of the manor might be derived from this family. Sir William Baude, senior, who died in 1376, held this manor of the king, by service and homage: and, in 1377, a licence was granted to William de Humberstone and others, to give this manor to the abbot and convent of Coggeshall, to find daily a wax taper to burn in their abbey church, before the high altar, at the time of high mass. The abbey retained this possession a considerable time, but not till their dissolution, in 1538; for, in 1525, it was granted to cardinal Wolsey, after whose fall it was granted to sir Thomas Seymour, who, in 1540, sold the manors and granges of Childerditch and Tillingham Hall to sir Richard Rich; and he, in 1554, settled

them on his second son, sir Hugh Rich, whose descendants retained possession till the year 1662, when they belonged to Edward Montague, earl of Manchester, who had married Anne, second daughter of Robert, the second earl of Warwick. Sir Thomas Cheke married, for his second wife, Essex, daughter of Robert Rich, first earl of Warwick of that family, and is understood to have had with her these manors, which remained in his descendants from 1666 to 1707, when Katharine, the youngest daughter of Anne, lady Tipping, conveyed them in marriage to the right honourable Thomas lord Archer, of whom they were purchased by lord Petre.

The church is a good plain building, dedicated to All Saints and St. Faith: the Church. steeple of brick and wood, with a shingled spire.

The advowson of this church was given to the abbot and monks of Coggeshall by Robert Hovel, and his wife Margaret, and they presented to it as a rectory till 1370; and, in 1379, on their petition to pope Urban the seventh, he, by his bull, dated 16th of August of that year, ordered the appropriation of this church to the abbey, and a vicarage was endowed. But this having been done without the king's licence, according to the statute of mortmain, the patronage became forfeited to the crown. Yet afterwards, on payment of one hundred shillings into the hanaper, they obtained a pardon, and regained possession of the great tithes and advowson of the vicarage, which, since the dissolution, have gone with the manors.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and eighty-nine: and, in 1831, had diminished to two hundred and fifty-one.

SOUTH WEALD.

The extensive parish of South Weald contains about six thousand acres, and occupies the northern extremity of the hundred, where it is bounded by Navestock, Kelvedon, and Doddinghurst; by Great Warley and Upminster on the south; Shenfield eastward, and Romford on the west. The Saxon weald, wood, applied to this place, sanctions the opinion of its having been one of the first inhabited parts of the forest; the addition of South is to distinguish it from North Weald, near Epping. The village is a mile from the road between Romford and Brentwood: the surrounding country distinguished by beautiful and picturesque scenery, with ornamental inclosures and pleasure grounds, having been selected as a convenient and healthful situation for numerous elegant mansions, the residences of genteel families.

South
Weald.

Before the survey, the lands of this parish belonged to Waltham abbey, except what had been in the possession of a Saxon named Sprot; at the survey, a portion of what belonged to the abbey had been exchanged with Geoffrey de Mandeville, and Sprot's portion had become the property of Robert Gernon. The whole was afterwards divided into six manors; including the hamlets of Brentwood and Brook Street, with part of Doddinghurst List: the remainder of the parish, named Uplands, has its own constable.

BOOK II.

Manor of
South
Weald.

The manor of South Weald was anciently named Walda, and given to the abbey of Waltham by earl Harold, in the year 1062; and this appropriation was confirmed by Henry the second, and by Richard the first. It was named Abbots Weld, on account of its having belonged to the abbey.* In 1540, this possession was taken from the abbey, and, with a farm named Boyles, belonging to Blakemore Priory, was granted, by Henry the eighth, to sir Brian Tuke, treasurer of his household, whose successor, his eldest son Charles, died in 1547, and was succeeded by his brother George, who the same year sold the estate to sir Richard Rich, lord chancellor of England; and he sold it to sir Anthony Browne, of a family of note, originally of the west of England, whose descendants retained possession till, in 1662, it was sold, by sir Anthony Browne, to sir William Scroggs, a learned civilian, who died in 1683, and is buried in this church: sir William, his son and heir, sold the estate to Erasmus Smith, alias Heriz, esq. alderman of London, whose son Hugh, on his succeeding to the estate, greatly improved the house and grounds. By his wife Dorothy, daughter of the hon. Dacre Lennard Barrett, of Alveley, he left two daughters, Dorothy, the eldest, married to John Smith Barry, esq. fourth son of James, earl of Barrymore; and Lucy, who was married to James Stanley, lord Strange, eldest son of Edward, earl of Derby, by whom she had five children. On her decease, in 1759, the estate descended to the male issue, of whom it was purchased by Thomas Tower, esq. and has descended to the present owner, Christopher Thomas Tower, esq.

Weald
Hall.

The elegant mansion of Weald Hall is chiefly of modern erection, with part of the ancient building modernised. It is encompassed with pleasure-grounds, gardens, and plantations, enclosed in an extensive park; in which, from various stations, highly interesting prospects are presented over parts of the country richly cultivated, and of varied appearance. In the park there is an ornamental embattled tower, which has received the name of Prospect House; and from this elevation the view is rendered more widely extensive.†

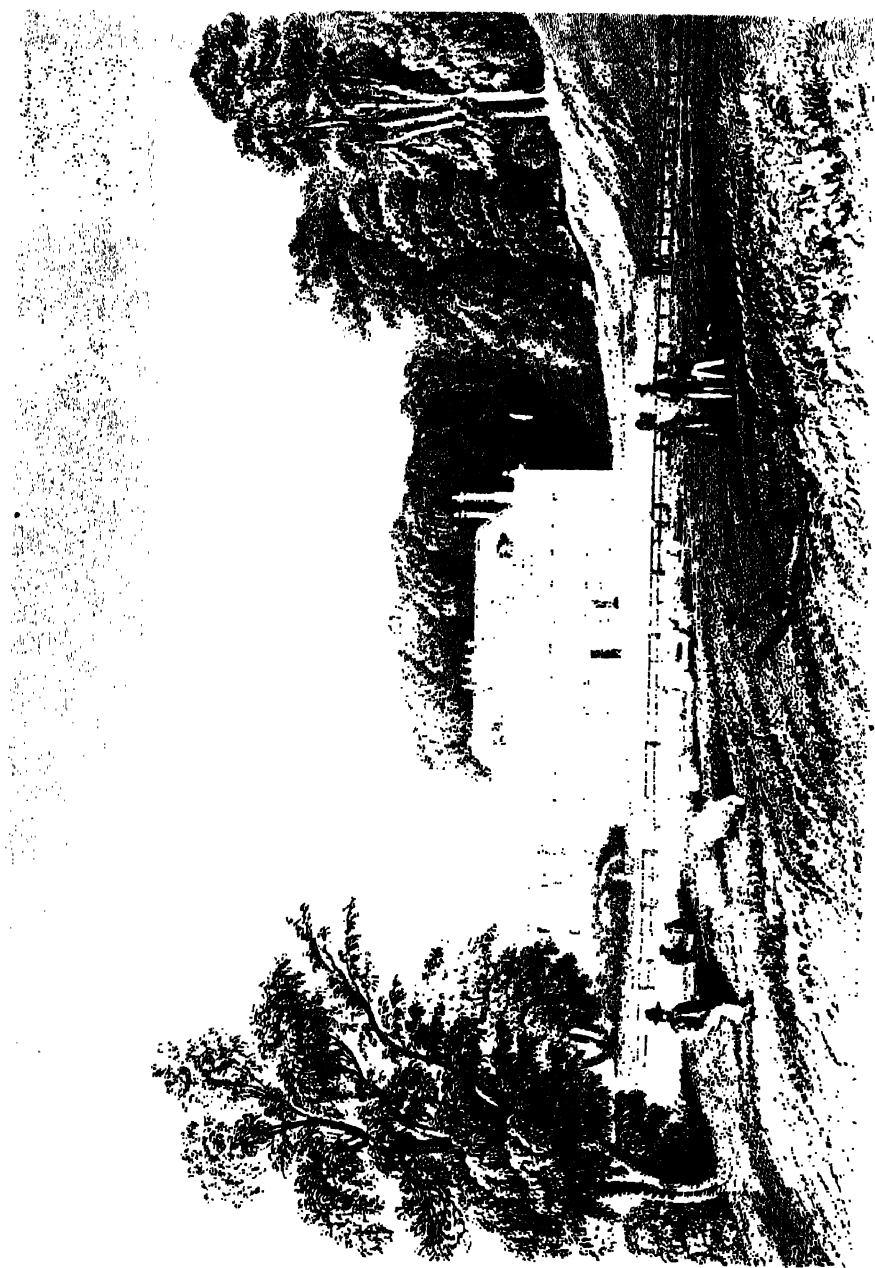
Bowells,
or Boyles.

The reputed manor of Bowells is supposed to be the estate held by Robert Gernon of the king's gift, as stated in Domesday. It belonged afterwards to the priory of Blackmore, and was granted, in 1540, with the manor of South Weald, to sir Brian Tuke;‡ and belonged successively to his son George, to Humphrey Frith, and to

* The boundaries of this estate are defined in the Monasticon, to be "from Dellen north through a gate, east into Halfgate, from Halfgate east into the Wulfspytte. From that pytte south into the park, or inclosed land, from thence south to Freebearn's leap, and so into Mannes land, and then again to Dellen."

† Rochetts, formerly the seat of sir Peter Parker, knt. and lately of earl St. Vincent, who married sir Peter's only daughter, is in this parish.

‡ In 1533, he was sheriff of Essex, and is highly praised by Leland for his learning and wonderful eloquence. He was seated at Layer Marney.



Robert his son, in 1573, succeeded by Ralph his son; by John Justice, esq. by David Papillon, esq. and by his son. The manor-house, on the road from Brook Street to Warley, is the property and residence of J. Lescher, esq. CHAP.
XV.

The mansion of the manor of Calcots is near Weald Hall Park, northward from the church. It consists of the land that belonged to Sprot, in the reign of Edward the confessor, and to Robert Gernon, and his under-tenant Ralph, at the time of the survey: it was all or part of it given to the abbey of Stratford Langthorn, by Richard de Montfichet; and, after the dissolution, was granted, by Henry the eighth, in 1544, to Thomas Buck, and other citizens of London; and, in 1592, a grant of it was procured by William Tipper and Robert Dawe, and, in 1599, it belonged to Anthony Browne, esq. succeeded by Hugh Smith, esq. and now belongs to C. T. Tower, esq.* Calcots.

The manor of Brentwood, also named Cost Hall, or Costead Hall, contains the hamlet or town of Brentwood, which is the most considerable in the parish. This manor was given to the abbey of St. Osyth, by William de Wochendon Camerarius,† and confirmed to that house by Henry the second. The donation seems to have been made either immediately on the founding of the priory, or soon after, and the town was grown so considerable a place in the reign of king Stephen, that it had obtained a grant of a weekly market and a fair. After the dissolution of the monastery, this manor was granted to Thomas lord Cromwell, on whose attainder, returning to the crown, in 1549, it belonged to the lady Anne of Cleve. In 1553, it was granted to Anthony Browne, and passed from his successors as the other estates, to the present owner, Christopher Tower, esq. Brent-
wood.

The town is on an eminence, pleasant and healthy; the houses, generally old, and irregularly built on each side of the road, form a street of considerable extent. The inhabitants are supplied with excellent water from wells. The market has been discontinued, but there are fairs on July 18, and October 15, for cattle. Courts leet and baron are held occasionally by the lords of Calcots. The assizes were formerly held here, and there are remains of a town hall and prison in High Street, vested in feoffees for the use of the judges of assize. There is a place of worship here for dissenters, of the denomination of Independents. A free school, endowed by sir Anthony Browne, receives boys from this and any other parish within three miles of the school-house.‡ Brent-
wood.

The mansion of this manor is near the road from Brentwood toward Ongar, two Bands, or
Dounsels.

* An ancient capital mansion here, belonging to the abbey of Stratford Langthorn, was on that account named Langtons, or Langthorns; it is the property of Mr. Tower.

† He was apparently the same William the chamberlain who had lands in South Okendon.

‡ This school was founded here by sir Anthony Browne, knt. serjeant-at-law, of Weald Hall, by letters patent of king Philip and queen Mary, dated the 5th of July, 1557. There are usually between sixty and seventy boys, all upon the foundation, no other being admitted: they are received without any expense whatever, and no one who has applied, and been qualified for admission, has ever been refused. They

BOOK II. miles north-east from the church; the manor is partly in this and partly in the parishes of Kelvedon Hatch, Doddinghurst, and Shenfield.* Ralph Bawde, who died in 1483, held this estate of the bishop of London, and it belonged to Thomas Bradbury at the time of his decease, in 1509, being at that time named Bawdes. From this family it passed to that of Crafford: Arthur Crafford lived at his manor of Dounsells, where he died in 1606. John Leech, secretary to the sequestrators of this county during the civil wars, had this estate, which he sold to Thomas Manby, esq. of the family of Manby, at Elisham, in Lincolnshire, where they were seated in the time of Edward the first.† The estate remained in the Manby family until the death of John Manby, esq. in 1819, when it was sold to the rev. Emanuel Dias Santos.

Ropers. The lands of Ropers manor lie to the left of the London road from Brentwood, and extend from Brook Street toward Great Warley: Henry Roper, pursuivant to queen Katharine of Arragon, in 1614, let this manor, with the place or moat-house, and mill. In 1617, the estate was conveyed, by Constance Roper, to William Ipgrave. This manor was afterwards divided into Great Ropers, the property and residence of John Hirst, esq.; and Little Roper, the property of Henry Hall, esq. of Hutton.

The ancient mansion of Moat House was named Brook Hall, when it belonged to the Wright family;‡ the estate was holden of the duchy of Lancaster, and passed from are instructed in Latin, Greek, English, mathematics, writing, and arithmetic. The school is near the east end of the town, and the master's house, which joins to it, has a small garden, and six acres of land. The corporation seals form a double clasp seal of silver, and are kept in an iron chest, with the muniments of the school.

This school is entitled to a small scholarship of six pounds per annum, at Christ College, Cambridge, in turn with the schools of Maldon and Chelmsford, given by Thomas Plume, D.D. The master is allowed to employ an usher at his own cost, and to change him at his pleasure. He must by himself, or some other person properly licensed, read divine service every Wednesday and Friday in the chapel of Brentwood. This chapel, with the patronage of the school, now belongs to Christopher Towers, esq. of Weald Hall. The income arising from the endowment is one thousand, four hundred and fifty-two pounds, seven shillings, per annum, paid to the master, subject to an allowance of ten pounds each to five persons as alms, and to the expense of keeping the premises in repair.

Dodding-
hurst List. * This manor forms a peculiar jurisdiction called Doddinghurst List, which has a constable quite independent of any other parish or hamlet, although this district lies within several parishes, and for church and poor is not a separate district from those parishes; yet, for the purposes of the land tax and the peace, it is all within the hundred of Barnstaple, and is quite separate from the several parishes in those respects.

+ He died in 1678, having had, by his wife Mary, daughter of Daniel Caldwell, esq. of Horndon-on-the-Hill, Caldwell, Thomas, and two daughters. Thomas succeeded to the estate; he was knighted by king James the second in 1686, and was high sheriff of Essex in 1688. His first wife was Julia, daughter of sir George Selby, bart. by whom he had Francis, and Thomas; and by his second, Elizabeth, daughter of sir George Carey, knt. of Torr Abbey, in Devonshire, he had Robert, Edward, and George. Francis, his eldest son, was his successor. Arms of Manby: Argent, a lion rampant, sable, between an orle of eight escallops, gules. Crest: On a torse argent and gules, an armed hand, proper, sleeved or and argent, cuffed or, grasping a dagger, argent.

‡ They came from Kelvedon Hatch; John, of that place, had Robert, John, of South Weald, and another John, resident at Wright's Bridge, on the Ingreburne, so named from a branch of this family.

the Laurence to the Wright family, and probably came from Ipgrave to Laurence. The house is on the left of Brook Street, going toward London. John, son of Thomas Wright, was succeeded by his son John, and by his grandson of the same name, who sold Moat House to Mr. William Wheatley, in 1721.

CHAP
XV.

Brook Street is a hamlet by a brook, at the foot of Brentwood Hill, in this parish, a mile south-west from the town, on the London road.*

Brook
Street.

Tillingham Hall, described under Childerditch, extends into this parish.

The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is a handsome building on an eminence. Five pillars divide the nave and chancel into two paces, and a massive stone tower,† rising to a considerable height, forms a conspicuous object at a great distance.‡

Church.

The time of the building of this church is not known; when earl Harold gave the manor to Waltham Abbey, it was given with it, if it existed at that time. In 1244, it was appropriated to that house by Fulk Basset, bishop of London, to which the gift was confirmed by John Chishull, the succeeding bishop, who at the same time reserved to himself and successors the collation to the vicarage. The vicarage-house was erected by the rev. Dr. Bridges, during his incumbency.

The chapel at Brentwood, dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, is a small ancient edifice, partly in the early and partly in the later style of English architecture: within is a rude image of its tutelar saint, carved in wood. The living is a perpetual curacy, endowed with six hundred pounds private benefaction, eight hundred pounds royal bounty, and four hundred pounds parliamentary grant.

This chapel was founded in 1221, at the request of David, abbot of St. Osyth, for the convenience of their tenants at Cost Hall, with the consent of the bishop of London, of Richard, parson of Weald, and of the abbot and convent of Waltham. The abbot and convent of St. Osyth were to build it on their own fee, at the new

* A hospital for lepers was founded here, on the north side of the street, by the Bruyn family, of South Okendon; it had a master, or warden, admitted by the bishops of London, on the presentation of the said family of Bruyn. The estate is now known as "The Spital."

† This tower was built in the beginning of the reign of Henry the seventh, by a rate for five years, in all amounting to two hundred and eighty-nine pounds, five shillings and ten-pence.

‡ Among the inscriptions are memorials of sir Anthony Browne, who died May 5, 1567, aged fifty-seven. Arthur Craford, of Bawds, who died May 1606, aged seventy-two. Thomas Manby, esq. of Bawds, Feb. 1678, aged fifty-five. John Wright Bridge, esq. in 1644, aged forty-five. Laurence Wright, M.D. Oct. 3, 1657, aged sixty-seven: also his wife. Sir Anthony Browne, knt. March 26, 1623. Mary Barrington, widow of John Barrington, of Hatfield, who died Jan. 21, 1680, aged eighty. George Gittins, of Bishop's Hall, Nov. 25, 1712, aged eighty-three.

Besides the school at Brentwood, and other important charities, are the following:—Five almshouses, Charities. founded by sir Anthony Browne and his wife, for three men and two women, successively chosen from South Weald, Brentwood, and Brook Street, by the owner of South Weald: the master of Brentwood school to pay a yearly stipend, and to keep the houses in repair. John Wright, of the Moat House, in 1682, left the interest of two hundred pounds to the poor of Brook Street, Uplands, and Brentwood. In 1611, Mr. Lound, vicar of South Weald, gave a yearly rent of one hundred pounds to the poor of the Uplands, for ever.

BOOK II. place,* and to maintain a proper priest to officiate in it daily, if they thought fit.† The chapel continued in possession of the abbey of St. Osyth till the reign of Henry the eighth.

A chantry was founded in this chapel for the soul of Isabel, countess of Bedford; it was dedicated to St. Mary, and a chaplain instituted in 1393, at the presentation of Edmund duke of York, and others.

Roman
anti-
quities.

Camden supposed the Cæsaromagus of Antoninus was in the neighbourhood of Brentwood; but this opinion (offered indeed with great diffidence) has not been supported by other antiquaries. Some pateras, and other earthen vessels, are however mentioned by Salnon to have been found on a military way, leading from Billericay towards Ongar; as also two Roman lares, dug up near Shenfield; also at South Weald, on the south-western verge of South Weald Hall Park, are traces of a circular camp, single ditched, including about seven acres, supposed to have been a castra exploratorium.

In 1821, South Weald, with the hamlet of Brook Street, contained eleven hundred and thirty-five inhabitants; the chapelry of Brentwood, fourteen hundred and twenty-three; total, two thousand, five hundred and fifty-eight: increased, in 1831, to eleven hundred and eighty-three in South Weald, &c. and sixteen hundred and forty-two in Brentwood; total, two thousand, eight hundred and twenty-five inhabitants.

* Apud novum locum, implies that the name of Brent, or Burnt-wood, was not known at that time.

† The perquisites of the chaplain arose from the gifts of travellers, and such as came out of devotion to St. Thomas; from whom a gate in this parish, on the Ongar road, has been named Pilgrim's Hatch; and opposite to it another gate or hatch has been called Hou, or Forest Hatch.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN THE HUNDRED OF CHAFFORD.

R. Rectory.

V. Vicarage.

† Discharged from payment of First Fruits.

Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Alvey, R.	Essex	John Holmes	****	£14 10 5	D. and C. St. Paul's.
Childerditch, V.	J. Newman	1805	† 8 0 0	Lord Petre.
Cranham, R.	Thomas Ludbey	1818	13 18 4	Rev. Thomas Ludbey.
Okendon, South, R.	Henry Eve	1819	33 6 8	G. Leith, esq.
Okendon, R.	Edward R. Benyon	1827	16 13 4	Sir C. Hulse, bart.
Rainham, V.	J. T. G. Cross	1826	10 0 0	J. C. G. Cross.
Rainham, Ch.	J. T. G. Cross .....	.....	Not in charge	
Stifford, R.	J. H. Hogarth	1822	15 0 0	Pem. Col. Oxon.
Thurrock, West, V.	J. Foster	1805	15 13 4	S. Whitbread, esq.
Thurrock, Greys, V.	G. F. Hele	1826	† 5 0 10	Pem. Col. Oxon.
Upminster, R.	J. R. Holden .....	.....	26 13 4	W. Holden, esq.
Warley, Great, R.	H. Robinson	1827	14 0 0	St. John's Col. Camb.
Warley, Little, R.	R. Smyth	1801	11 3 9	{ Earl Brownlow and Miss Tyrell.
Weald, South, R.	Ch. Belli	1823	26 13 4	Bishop of London.
Do. Ch. of Brentwood	— Rhodes	1834	C.V. 2 10 0	Chr. Tower, esq.
Weanington, R.	George W. Curtis ..	1826	5 0 0	Bishop of London.

CHAPTER XVI.

HUNDRED OF BARSTABLE.

THIS hundred extends from Chafford on the west, to Rochford and Chelmsford Barstable. hundreds eastward; and from the Thames on the south, to part of Chelmsford hundred northward; and a narrow portion of this district stretches north-westward between the hundreds of Chelmsford and Chafford, which is crossed by the London road: its greatest extent, from north-west to south, is seventeen miles; and from east to west, eleven. In records the name is written Barstable, Barstaple; and in Domesday, Berdestapla. It contains the following thirty-four parishes: Doddinghurst, Shenfield, Hutton, Great Burghsted, Little Burghsted, Ramsden Crays, Ramsden Belhouse, Downham, East Horndon, West Horndon, with Ging Ralph, Horndon-on-the Hill, Dunton, Bulvan, Orset, Little Thurrock, Chadwell, West Tilbury, East Tilbury, Mucking, Stanford le Hope, Coringham, Fobbing, Langdon Hills, Langdon, with Basildon, Nevendon, Wickford, Pitsey, Buers Gifford, North Bemfleet, South Bemfleet, Thundersley, part of Canvey Island.

DODDINGHURST.

This parish occupies the north-western extremity of the hundred, on the border Dodding-
hurst. of that of Ongar. It is distant from Chelmsford eight, and from London twenty-two miles.

In the time of Edward the confessor, it belonged to Aluric, and at the survey to Robert, son of Corbutio, whose under-tenant was Girard. There are two manors.

The mansion of Doddinghurst Hall is near the church: this manor belonged to Dodding-
hurst Hall Hugh, the fourth earl of Oxford, who died in 1263, and continued in that noble family till Edward, the last earl, sold it, in 1579, with the advowson of the church, to Richard Stonely, esq. of whom it was purchased, in 1599, by Thomas Glascock, on whose decease, in 1623, he left his only daughter, married to Thomas Luther, esq.

BOOK II. his heiress: Anthony Luther was their son and heir, who died in 1678. By Dorothy, his wife, daughter of sir Henry D'Autrey, knt. he had, besides other children, Henry, his eldest son and heir, whose successor was his son Anthony, who dying without issue, his widow gave the estate to her niece, Miss Surman. It now belongs to William Manby, esq.*

Dodding-
hurst
Place, or
Kensing-
tons.

The mansion of Doddinghurst Place is on low ground, half a mile north-west from the church. The time of its being separated from the chief manor is not recorded. In the reign of queen Elizabeth, it belonged to Richard Stoneley, and by the marriage of his daughter, was conveyed to the ancient family of D'Hautrey, by contraction Dawtrey. Thomas Dawtrey, esq. was sheriff of Essex in 1682, as was also his son and heir William, in 1736,† who dying unmarried, his large possessions were inherited by his nephew, Richard Luther, esq. of Myless: this estate now belongs to John Fane, esq.‡

Church.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a plain ancient building, tiled.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to three hundred and fifty-six, and, in 1831, to three hundred and seventy-two.

SHENFIELD.

Shenfield.

This parish extends from Doddinghurst on the north-west, and is bounded north-eastward by the hundred of Chelmsford; from east to west it is computed to be three, and from north to south, three and a half miles. The Saxon name of Scenfeld, a pleasant field, is properly applicable to this agreeable district; and the houses, generally distant from each other, form a pleasant village on the London road between Mountnessing and Brentwood:§ distant from Chelmsford ten, and from London nineteen miles.

The lands of this parish, at the close of the Saxon era, belonged to a freeman named Bodd, and, at the general survey, to Eustace, earl of Boulogne. It was afterwards divided into two manors.

Shenfield
Hall.

The manor-house of Shenfield Hall is near the church: the estate belonged to Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex, who died in 1298, and is believed to have become the possession of that family on the marriage of his great grandfather,

* An estate incorporated in this manor was, in 1259, holden by Osbert Daggerworth of the king, of the honour of Rayleigh, in socage, by the service of three arrows, feathered with eagles' feathers, bound round with a thread of gold.

† Arms of Dawtrey: Azure, three lozenges in fesse, argent.

‡ A reputed manor named Groves, was given by sir Thomas Bouchier to a chantry in Grace Church, London, which became the property of earl Waldegrave, in 1739. "Convers," was also a manor which extended into Navestock, where the name was remembered in Mr. Morant's time.

§ The greater part of the soil of this parish is a fruitful loam.

Henry de Bohun, earl of Hereford, with Maud, heiress of the house of Mandeville: it remained in this noble family till it was conveyed, in 1361, by Eleanor, a co-heiress of Humphrey de Bohun, to her husband, Thomas of Woodstock, sixth son of Edward the third; and on his murder, in 1397, his daughters Anne, Joan, and Isabel, were his co-heiresses: of these, Anne became ultimately sole possessor, and is understood to have been succeeded by her son, Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham, who being slain at the battle of Northampton, 10th of July, 1460, this estate was seized by Edward the fourth, who settled it on Elizabeth, his queen. Afterwards it passed from the crown, and belonged to Humphrey Tyrell in 1545, and, some time previous to 1559, to the Lucas family. In 1556, it was the property of John Lucas, from whom it passed to his descendants, forming part of the estates of the right hon. Philip earl Hardwicke, which he received in marriage with the lady Jemima Campbell, (created marchioness de Grey in 1740) grand-daughter to the duke of Kent, into whose family this estate was brought in marriage by Mary, daughter of John Lucas, esq. created baron Lucas of Shenfield in 1644. It now belongs to lady baroness de Grey.

The estate of Fitzwalters is derived from the capital manor, and belonged to the family whose name it bears. The house is on low ground, north-west from the road between Ingatestone and Brentwood, a mile from the church: it has a very singular appearance, being nearly of an octangular form, with the chimneys rising in the centre. In front there is a piece of water, with a neat little bridge, and toward the road are two porters' lodges. In 1301, Robert lord Fitzwalter had licence to inclose his wood at Shenfield, to make a park, which is believed to have been this estate; held, in 1363, by Joan his wife, of the king in capite, by the service of a pair of gilt spurs, at the coronation. It belonged to Walter Fitzwalter in 1386, and afterwards was in possession of the Knyvett family; succeeded by John Morecroft, esq. who erected the house from an Italian model.* It was the property of sir Thomas Ambrose,† knt. of Houndsditch, and sheriff of London in 1718 and 1719. Thomas, his son, was his successor, whose son of the same name was sheriff of Essex in 1735. Passing to a female heir of this family, it became the residence of Pinson Bonham, esq. and afterwards belonged to Thomas Wright, esq. It is now in the possession of J. Parker, esq. and belongs to Robert Westley Hall Dare, esq.

Fitz-
walters.

The capital messuage of Shenfield Place, on the north side of the London road, belonged for many years to the Vaughan family, and now belongs to the hon. George William Petre.

Shenfield
Place.

There are many estates not manorial, and numerous gentlemen's houses in this as well as the neighbouring parishes.

* Arms of Morecroft: A horse courant with a bridle tied in a knot, over his shoulders, between three roses, two and one.

† Arms of Ambrose: Or, three discs, gules, each charged with an ace, argent.

BOOK II. The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, has a nave, north aisle and chancel, to which there is a north chapel: a spire of wood rises to a considerable height.*

Church. The number of inhabitants in this parish, in 1821, were six hundred and nineteen, and, in 1831, six hundred and sixty-five.

HUTTON.

Hutton. This parish and small village is about half way on the road from Brentwood to Billericay. In the reign of the Confessor, it belonged to a freeman named Got, on whose dispossession by the Conqueror, it was made part of the endowment of Battle Abbey; and, on the dissolution, was granted to sir Thomas Darcy, in 1539, who the same year conveyed it to sir Richard Rich, from whose grandson, Edwin Rich, esq. it was sold to Jerom Weston, esq. from whom it was conveyed to Richard White, esq. of the family of that name, at Runwell. He married Maud, daughter of sir William Tyrell, of Heron, and his descendants retained this estate, till in 1628, George, son of Richard White,† esq. sold it to Thomas Cory, esq.‡ of Franson, in Norfolk, one of the benchers of the Inner Temple, and prothonotary of the court of Common Pleas; he died in 1656, leaving, by his wife Judith, daughter of sir Christopher Clithero, knt. lord mayor of London, his only daughter, married to John Heyward. It afterwards belonged successively to William Hatherley, of London; to Robert Surman, esq. cashier of the South-sea company; to Henry Hall, esq. brother of sir Philip Hall,§ knt. of Upton, who died in 1749, whose son Henry sold it to Benjamin Bootk, esq.

The mansion is a very good building, northward from the church, lately the residence of James Forbes, esq.; the present owner of the estate is Robert Scholey, esq. alderman of London.

Church. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a small building, with a wooden steeple, containing five bells.

This church was retained by Battle Abbey till the dissolution; yet the advowson

Inscriptions.

* Within the church are inscriptions to the memory of John Ashurst, and Elinor his fourth and last wife; and of Walter Murrell, who died in 1653, aged seventy-two; Penelope Morecroft, daughter of John Morecroft, esq. high sheriff of Essex, who died in 1677; Charles White, and Elizabeth his wife; she died in 1735, aged thirty-five; he in 1750, aged sixty-nine.

† Thomas White, of this family, was a secular priest, celebrated for his learning, and esteemed a distinguished philosopher in the age in which he lived. He died 6th July, 1676, aged ninety-four, and was buried in the church of St. Martin's-in-the-fields. *Wood's Ath.* vol. ii. col. 665. Arms of White: Argent, a chevron gules, with a crescent at the top, between three Cornish choughs, within a bordure azure byzante of eight, or.

‡ Arms of Cory: Argent, a chevron gules, charged with five annulets or, between three spread-eagles, sable. Crest: On a helmet closed a torse argent and gules, a demi-griffin segreant gules, winged, or, on the inside of the left wing a mullet sable.

§ Arms of Hall: Sable, a chevron between three talbots' heads erased, argent.

of the vicarage belonged from time immemorial to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, who are the present patrons.*

C H A P.
XVI.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to four hundred and eighteen, which, in 1831, had decreased to three hundred and eighty-one.

GREAT BURGHSTED.

This parish extends eastward from Hutton to the border of the hundred of Chelmsford; from north to south it is computed to be four, and from east to west three miles. Its general situation is exceedingly pleasant, commanding extensive prospects; and, from various stations, the shipping may be distinctly seen passing and repassing on the Thames, at the distance of twelve and fourteen miles.

Great
Burghsted

The village, where the parish church is situated, is two miles distant from Billericay. Anciently this lordship belonged to the abbot and monks of Stratford Abbey, to whom king Henry the third, in 1253, granted a market and fair to be held here; and this grant was confirmed by Edward the first, in 1285; but they were probably discontinued, either previous to or at the time when a similar grant was made to Billericay. Distant from Chelmsford nine, and from London twenty-three miles.

In Edward the confessor's reign, a Saxon thane named Ingar had this parish, of which he was dispossessed by the Conqueror, who gave it to his half-brother, Odo, bishop of Bayeux; on whose disgrace and banishment it became vested in the crown, and was granted to the family of Mareschall, earls of Pembroke. It was afterwards divided into three manors.

The mansion of this manor is half a mile east from the church, toward Ramsden Cray. The Cistercian Abbey of Stratford Langthorn had a grange here, which accounts for the name; that house had nearly the whole of the parish, which they retained till their dissolution; and, in 1551, the estate was granted, by Henry the eighth, to sir Richard Rich, and retained by his descendants till it was sold, in 1600, by sir Edwin Rich, to sir John Petre, knt. and his son William. In 1603, sir John was created baron of Writtle, and died in 1613, possessed of this manor, which has descended from him to the present lord Petre.

Great
Burghsted
Grange.

West House was half a mile west from the church, and with the estate to which it belonged, was included in the grant of the capital manor to sir Richard Rich, who sold it to Walter Farr, esq.; after whose decease, in 1608, it was conveyed, by purchase, into the family of Lumley, of Great Bardfield, and was sold by the trustees of

West
House.

* Among the inscriptions in the church are memorials of George White, esq. son of Richard White, who died 12th June, 1584; Thomas Cory, esq. who died 16th December, 1656, the monument erected by "his most sad, deere wif Judith;" also of the said Judith, who died 6th June, 1663.

Inscrip-
tions.

George White, esq. in 1594, left a field of nine acres for the reparation of the church, and for the use of the poor of the parish.

Charity.

BOOK II. sir James Lumley, to Guy's Hospital. This estate is supposed to be what is now called Broom Hill, the property of sir Thomas Neave, bart.

Blund's Walls. This manor is named from the ancient family of Blund, and from earth-works called Walls, the remains of which are yet visible here.* The mansion is a mile and a half north-west from the church.

Thoby Priory, in Mountnessing, had this estate till their dissolution, and it was granted to cardinal Wolsey in 1525: after wards coming to the crown, it was granted, by Henry the eighth, to sir Richard Page, knt. for the term of his life, without any account; on whose decease the same monarch, in 1554, sold this estate to sir William Petre, and it has continued in that noble family to the present time.

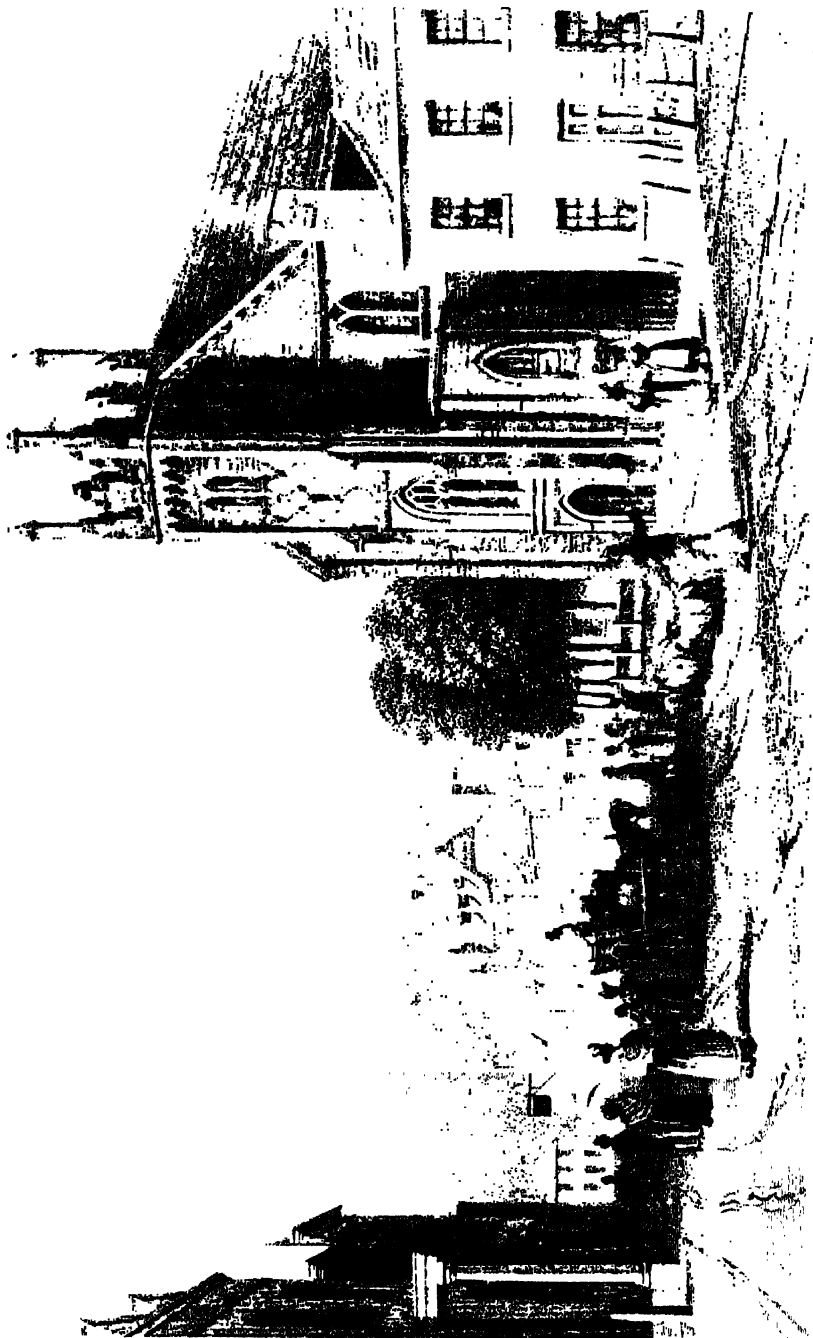
Billericay. Billericay is a chapelry in Great Burghsted, yet quite independent of the mother church: it had the privilege of a market granted by Edward the fourth, in the year 1476; and Camden describes it as a considerable market-town in his time. It is pleasantly situated on high ground, from which the Nore and the coast of Kent may be seen on a clear day; and overlooking an extensive and richly cultivated vale, with a fine prospect of the surrounding country, which abounds with beautiful scenery. The town is a great thoroughfare from Chelmsford to Horndou-on-the-Hill, East Tilbury, and Gravesend; it contains many good houses, and in every part has a neat and respectable appearance. There are a considerable number of Dissenters here, and places of worship for Baptists, the society of Friends, and Independents. The chief trade is in corn, and there is a silk manufactory, which employs a considerable number of hands.

Lord Petre, who is lord of the manor, holds a court leet and baron annually in Whitsun week, at the former of which, constables and other officers for the internal regulation of the town are appointed; and petty sessions are holden at the market-house the first and third Tuesday in every month. The market is on Tuesday, and fairs are held on August 2, and October 7, principally for cattle. The town is distant from Chelmsford nine, and from London twenty-four miles.†

Chapel. The episcopal chapel, dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, is a substantial brick building, near the centre of the town: the tower is evidently ancient, but the body has a more modern appearance. The erection of this chapel was some time after the year 1342, and Mr. Newcourt recites a passage from bishop Bonner's Register, p. 412, which seems to prove that this chapel was originally built for the convenience of the

* These remains consist of a ditch and rampart, including about four acres, part of which is inclosed in a farm-yard: the rampart is considerably above the level of the fields. Several artificial mounds within the inclosure have been nearly levelled. There have also been discovered here various fragments of urns, pateræ, and other earthen vessels, about three feet below the surface, on a high hill near Billericay, together with Roman copper coins, and two silver ones, of the emperors Trajan and Adrian. From these various remains it is inferred that this neighbourhood has been the site of a Roman villa, or small station.

† The manor of Cowbridge, the mansion of which is in Mountnessing, extends into this parish; and a considerable portion of the western side of the town of Billericay is within that manor.



inhabitants of the western part of Great Burghsted, when, on account of the inundation of the waters in the winter time, they could not conveniently attend at the parish church.

CHAP.
XVI.

This chapelry was originally used as a chantry, and endowed with lands for the support of a chantry priest, who also officiated in the chapel.* It is now supported by the rental of the pews.

The church of Great Burghsted has a nave and north and south aisles, and the chancel a north chapel.† There are two ornamented niches on the south of the communion table, and the entrance door on the north has a pointed arch, with highly ornamented mouldings.

Church.

The Walton family were many years seated in this parish: Charles, commonly called captain Walton, died in 1714, and had one son and two daughters, of whom Poley, was married to Richard Onslow, esq. general of his majesty's forces, and younger brother of Arthur Onslow, esq. speaker of the House of Commons. The brave George Walton, knt. admiral of the blue, who died in 1739, was an honour both to his family and country.‡

Walton
family.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to one thousand, eight hundred and sixty-one; and, in 1831, to one thousand, nine hundred and seventy-seven.

LITTLE BURGHSTED.

This parish, extending south-west from Great Burghsted, has been sometimes named West Burghsted: the village consists of a few scattered houses, nearly two miles from Billericay. Godwin was lord of this manor in the time of Edward the confessor, and

Little
Burghsted

* The chapel and the chantry lands were sold, by king Henry the sixth, to — Tyrell; who, reserving the lands for himself, sold the chapel to the inhabitants of Billericay, for whose use it was vested in trustees; but it not being certainly known whether this sacred edifice had ever been properly consecrated, the inhabitants surrendered their legal right to Henry, bishop of London, on the 30th of August, 1693; and, on the 8th of October following, he consecrated and dedicated it to St. Mary Magdalen, with the usual privileges belonging to ancient chapels, but reserving to the mother church all her rights.

† In this church there are monuments and inscriptions to the memory of Felton Neville, esq.; Joseph Fishpool, gent. of Billericay, who died in 1659, and of Anne his wife: also several of the family of Thresher, of this parish; and of the family of Tyrell, the lineal ancestors of the present sir John Tyrell.

Inscrip-
tions.

Rev. — Bayley, rector of North Benfleet, left an estate of twenty pounds per annum, for the education of ten poor children of this parish.

There is also an almshouse for poor females, and a well-conducted workhouse.

‡ This brave man signalised himself on many occasions, particularly at the destruction of the Spanish fleet, near Messina, in 1718. His letter on that event to sir George Byng, is as follows:—

SIR, "We have taken and destroyed all the Spanish ships and vessels which were upon the coast, number as per margin.—I am, &c. G. Walton, 16th Aug. 1718. Canterbury, off Syracuse." The number was: taken, four sixty-gun ships, one of fifty-four, one of forty, and another of twenty-four; a bomb vessel, and another laden with arms: burnt, one of fifty-four, two of forty, and another of thirty guns, with a gun vessel and fire-ship. *Account of the Expedition of the British Fleet to Sicily, &c.* 8vo. p. 19, 20. Sir George was knighted 15th Jan. 1720. Arms of Walton: Seme de luce, a mullet on the dexter part.

BOOK II. at the general survey it belonged to the bishop of London, whose successors have retained the capital manor, with the patronage of the rectory.

White
Hall.

The manor of White Hall was in the family of Helion in the reign of Henry the second, and passed in succession to Gilbert de St. Owen, in 1301: Humphrey de Walden, who died in 1331, and Andrew, his heir, son of his brother Roger: to Humphrey de Bohun, who died in 1372; and to Robert Pekenham in 1377, from whose descendants it was conveyed to the ancient family of Tyrell, of whom sir Thomas Tyrell died possessed of it in 1476. It now belongs to the earl of Arran.

St. Mar-
garet's.

This is the name of another manor, which was holden by sir Thomas Tyrell of the king, as of his duchy of Lancaster, by the rent of twopence. The manor-house of this estate is half a mile west from the church, and near it is a house belonging to an estate named South Fields, which, with White Hall and St. Margarets, descended to the heirs of sir John Tyrell, bart. and were retained by his descendants till conveyed, by marriage, to the present owner, the earl of Arran.

Church.

The church is small, and in an obscure situation; it has thirty-one acres, three roods, and seven perches of glebe lands.*

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and one, and, in 1831, to two hundred and four.

RAMSDEN CRAY.

Ramsden
Cray.

This parish, named in Domesday Ramesdan, extends northward from the Burghsteds, and is in length three miles, and in breadth one. The village is small: distant from Brentwood nine, and from London twenty-five miles.

In Edward the confessor's reign, part of these lands belonged to two freemen, and the other portion belonged to Siric: of these possessions, one was deprived by Raven-gar, and the other by Robert, son of Wimarc. At the time of the survey, they belonged to Odo, bishop of Bayeux, and Ralph, brother of Ilger. There were two manors, which are now united, and Tyled Hall is the manor-house.

Ramsden
Cray
Manor.

The manor-house is south from the church: this estate consists of the lands which belonged to Odo. Simon de Crei was the owner of it in 1262, as was also a second Simon, of the same family, who died in 1305; in 1332, it belonged to John de Liston, and, in 1363, was conveyed from Thomas, son of William

Inscrip-
tions.

Among the inscriptions in the church are memorials of Christopher Herries, son and heir of Christopher Herries, esq. of Shenfield and Margaretting, by his wife, sole daughter of sir Harbottle Grimston, knt. and bart. who died March 1666: the hon. sir George Walton, late admiral of the blue, who died in Nov. 1739, aged seventy-four. Also other memorials of the same family.

Charities.

There are three almshouses in this parish, and twenty shillings are given yearly to the poor at Christmas, called Pancras money, charged upon lands; and also five shillings in bread, at Whitsuntide. Rev. W. Dunoar, rector of this parish, left twenty pounds a year to the succeeding rectors, payable out of an estate called Braintrees, near Braintree.

de Liston, to sir Thomas Tyrell, of East Horndon, in whose descendants it continued, till, in 1630, it was conveyed, by sir John Tyrell, to William Walton, esq. of Little Burghsted; and, some time after the year 1700, his descendant of the same name, and brother of admiral Walton, sold the estate to Richard, earl of Scarborough; and he, in 1718, sold it to John Hopkins, esq.

The manor of Tyled Hall is apparently that part of the parish which belonged to Ralph, brother of Ilger, at the survey: the mansion is half a mile north from the church. In 1372, it belonged to Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex, and was holden, under this family, by John de Vere, earl of Oxford; and by his son and successor, Thomas, in 1358 and 1370. It was in the possession of Roger Mortimer, earl of March, in 1398; under whom it was holden by Hamo de Chevre; and afterwards passed, with the capital manor, to the families of Tyrell, Walton, and Hopkins. The united manors now belong to T. B. Batard, esq.

Tyled
Hall.

The church is a small ancient building, with a belfry and spire, and a small gallery has been erected.

Church.

In 1821, the number of inhabitants in this parish amounted to two hundred and seventy-six, and, in 1831, had decreased to two hundred and seventy-two.

RAMSDEN BELHOUSE.

This parish is four miles in length and one in breadth; bounded on the east by the hundred of Chelmsford: distant from Billericay four, and from London twenty-six miles.*

Ramsden
Belhouse.

Before the Conquest, the lands of this parish were held by Godric, and three free-men; and at the survey belonged to the bishop of London and Robert Geraon. Afterwards it was made to form two manors.

The mansion of Ramsden Belhouse is north-west from the church: the estate is what belonged to the bishop of London. In the reign of king Henry the second, Reinfred de Bruer was possessed of this estate; which, in 1200, formed part of the possessions of Richard de Belhus, of Alveley. In 1375, sir Thomas de Belhouse died without issue, and left his sister, married to John Castelayn, esq. his heiress; whose only daughter Margaret, conveyed his estates in marriage to Robert Knivet, esq. son of sir John Knivet, lord chancellor; from whose descendants it was conveyed, in 1388, to the Clopton family: and, in 1662, the estate and advowson of the church belonged to sir Jacob Gerard, knt. and bart., whose heir was his son Thomas, living in 1686; succeeded by his second son, sir Nicholas Gerard, who married Cecilia, daughter of sir Edwyn Steed, knt.; but having no issue, his estates descended to his heir at law, sir Jacob Gerard Downing, bart.†

Ramsden
Belhouse
manor.

* The soil is strong and heavy. Average annual produce per acre: wheat, twenty-two; barley, thirty-two bushels. The river Crouch runs through this parish.

† For an account of this family, see the English Baronetage, edit. 1727, vol. ii. p. 364.

BOOK II.

Ramsden
Barrington.

Robert Gernon had this portion of the parish at the time of the survey: it was afterwards in the Belhouse family, from whom it was conveyed, by the marriage of Alice, daughter of sir Richard de Belhouse, to sir Nicholas Barrington, of Barrington Hall, in Hatfield Broad Oak, who gave his brother the capital manor of this parish; and to his son, sir Philip Barrington, he gave this estate. Sir Philip, his youngest son, from whose descendants, Nicholas, John, and a second John, who left an only daughter Thomasine, it passed to the noble family of Bohun. Humphrey de Bohun died in 1372, and left two daughters co-heiresses; Eleanor, the eldest, was married to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, and had by him Anne, and two other daughters, who dying without issue, the whole half of the inheritance centered in Anne, who was married, first, to Thomas, then to Edmund, both successively earls of Stafford; and afterwards to William Bouchier, earl of Eu, by whom she had Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex. On partition of the estates of Humphrey de Bohun, between this Anne, and king Henry the fifth, son of Mary, the other daughter and co-heiress of Thomas of Woodstock, this estate fell to the share of Anne, and was dis-united from the duchy of Lancaster; to which it had been annexed by Henry the fifth, in 1414. Walter Devereux, lord Ferrers of Chartley, as heir to Anne, marchioness of Northampton, had this estate in 1570; which he soon afterwards sold to Edmund Tyrell, esq. of Beches, in Rawreth; and his heirs, in 1625, sold it to sir Edmund Wright, alderman of London; of whom it was purchased by sir Thomas Cheek, in 1640; from whom it descended, as the manor of Pergo, to Thomas Archer, esq. in right of his wife. The estate now belongs to Philip Francis, esq.

Church.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is small, with a steeple and spire.*

In 1821, this parish contained four hundred and fifteen, and, in 1831, four hundred and thirty-eight inhabitants.

DOWNHAM.

Down-
ham.

This parish is bounded on the west by Ramsden Belhouse, and on the east by the hundred of Chelmsford: distant from Billericay four, and from London twenty-seven miles.

Downham is not found in Domesday book, except, as is conjectured, it was included, at that time, in Ramsden Belhouse, and was the estate in that parish which was holden by Anchetil, of Robert Gernon. There are three manors.

Down-
ham Hall.

The mansion is south-east from the church, and the estate belonged to a family sur-named De Ramsden, about the close of the reign of king John, or the commencement of that of Henry the third. In 1263, Hugh de Vere, earl of Oxford, died in possession of this manor, which, in 1329, belonged to Thomas de Vere, son of Robert,

* Twenty shillings yearly were given, out of an acre and a half of land joining to the chapel yard in Barringtons, to find bread and wine for the sacrament.

sixth earl of Oxford; and it continued in this family till, in 1584, it was sold to Henry Attslow, son and heir of Edward Attslow, M. D. and, in 1622, Henry Attslow died in possession of it, leaving Edward, his son, his heir; whose daughter and heiress, Helen, by marriage, conveyed it to sir William Andrew, bart. who died in 1684. Sir Francis Andrew was his son and heir; who, in 1698, sold this estate to Francis Platt, esq. of the victualling office: who, dying in 1714, without issue, his three sisters and co-heiresses, sold it to Osmond Beauvoir, esq. of Balms, in Hackney, sheriff of Essex in 1742; and he, on his decease, left his son his heir. R. B. de Beauvoir, esq. is the present owner of the estate.

This manor is believed to be, what in Domesday is named Bertuna. It first appears in records in 1330, at that time holden by John de Rochford; who was succeeded by his son, sir Thomas. In 1392, it belonged to Alianor Dersham: it afterwards again returned to the Rochford family, and to that of Bayning: Paul viscount Bayning left an only daughter his heiress, married to Aubrey de Vere, the twentieth and last earl, upon whose decease, without issue, her noble inheritance was divided among her four aunts.

Berne
Hall.

The mansion of Tremnales is a large ancient building, a mile and a half north from the church, vulgarly named Famnals. Sir Thomas Tyrell held this manor in 1476; and sir John Tyrell, one of his descendants, having no issue, sold it, in 1627, to sir Henry Browne, knt. of Writtle, and Edward Strode, esq. of the Inner Temple, for their lives, and to the longest liver of them. The estate afterwards belonged to sir Thomas Raymond, knt. one of the justices of the King's Bench; who was succeeded by his son, also lord chief-justice; and, in 1732, by his grandson, Robert, lord Raymond. Benjamin Disbrow,* sheriff of Essex in 1689, was the next owner of this manor, which continued in possession of his descendants many years. It now belongs to William Manby, esq.

Trem-
nales.

* He was the seventh son of the celebrated major-general John Disbrow, a yeoman at the commencement of the disputes between Charles the first and the parliament; who having married one of the four sisters of Oliver Cromwell, exchanged the spade for the sword, to gain power and influence in the army. He was made colonel of a regiment of horse, one of the four commanders of the fleet in the Dutch war, commissary-general of the horse, major-general of several counties in the west of England, &c. He was also one of Cromwell's council, one of the commissioners of his treasury, one of the lords of the cinque ports; of both the committees of safety, and a member of the council of state; most of which were very profitable places. As one of the council, he had one thousand pounds a-year; as general at sea, one thousand and ninety-five pounds; as colonel of horse, four hundred and seventy-four pounds, ten shillings; as major-general of the western counties, six hundred and sixty-six pounds, thirteen shillings, and fourpence; in all, three thousand two hundred and thirty-six pounds, three shillings, and fourpence. He earnestly opposed Oliver Cromwell's taking the title of king; and persuaded Richard Cromwell to dissolve the parliament.—See *Whitelocke's Memorials*; *Ludlow's Memoirs*, 8vo. edit. vol. ii. p. 470, 479, &c.; *Wood's Fasti*, edit. 1721, vol. ii. col. 89. Arms of Disbrow: Argent, a fesse between three bears' heads muzzled, erased, sable.

BOOK II.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is a small ancient building, with a handsome square tower.*

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to three hundred and fifteen, which, in 1831, had decreased to two hundred and seventy-one.

EAST HORNDON.

East
Horndon.

This is one of three parishes named Horndon, taken from a lordship which was undivided at the time of the general survey, and named in records Horninduna, Torninduna, Torenduna, and, in Saxon, Hoppndon. These lands have been divided into East Horndon, West Horndon, and Horndon-on-the-Hill. East Horndon is three miles from Brentwood, and twenty-two from London.

In Edward the confessor's reign, the lands of East Horndon belonged to a king's thane, named Alwin; Aluric, a priest; and Godwin, a freeman; and, at the time of the survey, they were in the possession of Suene of Essex, and the bishop of London, and Odo, bishop of Bayeux, had twenty acres. Suene's under-tenants were Siric and Pagan. These lands were afterwards divided into two manors.

Heron, or
Herne
Hall.

A heronry at this place is believed to have been the origin of the name of the manor, and also of the surname of the most ancient proprietors on record. The mansion was a mile north from the church, surrounded by a moat; it was pulled down about the year 1790, with the exception of two round towers, which yet remain; and a spacious farm-house has been erected. It became the property of the Tyrell family, by the marriage of Margaret, daughter and heiress of sir William Heron; in 1363, Thomas Tyrell had licence to impark four hundred acres in Thorndon, and John Tyrell had this manor in 1413. The next owner mentioned in the inquisitions was sir Thomas Tyrell, who died in 1476. Sir Thomas, his son and heir, died in 1510; succeeded by Thomas Tyrell, esq. who died in 1540; his brother, sir Henry Tyrell, also held it in 1588; as did his son Thomas in 1591, from whom it passed to his descendants, and now belongs to earl Arran, who had it in marriage with the daughter of sir John Tyrell.

Abbots.

This manor belonged to Waltham Abbey, and was in consequence named Abbots; it is also called Low Horndon, from its situation on ground below the church: it

Inscrip-
tions.

* Among the inscriptions in this church, are memorials of "Good sir Henry Terrell, knt. and dame Thomasine, his wife, who died 20th May, 1588;" Joyce, wife of John Tyrrel, esq. and daughter to John Baker, esq. who died June, 1594; Wingfield Atslow, third son of Edward Atslow, docteur of phisicke, aged three years, ob. 17th April, 1584; sir William Andrew, bart. who died 15th August, 1684; Benjamin Disbrow, esq. who died 21st Feb. 1707; Sarah Norden, wife of Benjamin Disbrow, esq.; she had formerly been the wife of Andrew Sauc, merchant, of Dort, in Holland, and afterwards the wife of Cornelius Vandeu Anker, of London, merchant. She left one daughter, Cornelia Vander Anker, and died 9th April, 1692. On a black marble monument, an inscription to the memory of sir Thomas Raymond, knt. justice of the King's Bench, who died 14th July, 1683, aged 57.

belonged to Suene of Essex at the time of the survey, and on the forfeiture of his grandson, Henry de Essex, passing to the crown, was granted, by king Henry the second, to Henry, son of Gervase de Cornhull, whose heir held it in 1166; and which Joan, his daughter and heiress, conveyed in marriage to her husband, Hugh de Nevill, in 1195; and he, with the good-will and advice of his son, granted this estate to the canons of Waltham Holy Cross, to pray for his soul, and the soul of his wife Joan; and the souls of his heirs and successors. In 1210, sir William de Tormdon, or Torindon, held this manor; Desiderata, his daughter, was married to Robert de St. John; and had by him, Agnes, to whom her grandfather sir William gave some assart lands in this parish, named Damhelins, which she granted to the abbot and canons of Waltham, and which afterwards passed with this manor; which, in 1544, was granted or sold, by the name of the manor of Est Thorndon, with appertenances in Est Thorndon, and Damhelins, to sir William Petre. Afterwards, in 1551, Damhelins was purchased of sir William by John Tyrell, esq. but Abbots has remained in the Petre family.

The church is a small brick building, apparently erected at different periods; it has a tower at the west end, strengthened by massy buttresses. The central part of the building consists of a nave, north and south aisles, and a chancel, in which there is an octangular ceiling of wood, ornamented with carved shields of arms, roses, and other figures: on the south are chapels of the Tyrell and Petre families. On the north there are also two chapels, one of which is much ornamented. The font is formed of a square massy stone, carved with intersecting arches, and other ornaments: it is dedicated to All Saints.*

Church.

In 1821, the inhabitants of this parish amounted to four hundred and fifty-nine, and, in 1831, had diminished to four hundred and thirty-eight.

WEST HORNDON.

This parish lies westward from East Horndon; in records it is sometimes named Little Horndon, or Thorndon, in Saxon, Dōpnōn and Hōpnōn; in Domesday written Torninduna, and Horninduna.

West
Horndon.

* There are several of the monuments yet remaining which have been described by Weever, in which the following persons are commemorated: Thomas Tyrell, son and heir of John Tyrell, knt. and dame Anne his wyf, daughter of sir William Marney, knt. On the east window: " — Tyrell, knt. and dame —, and for all soulys schudd be preyd for; prey for the welfar of the sayd Thomas Tyrell, knt. Alice his wyf, and for all christen soules."

Inscrip-
tions.

In the south chapel, on a grave stone, is a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation: " Upon him once decimated, twice imprisoned, thrice sequestered; he holds his peace as oft as plundered. Here lieth buried John Tyrell, knt. He died in the year 1645, aged eighty-two. (He was a great sufferer for his loyalty to king Charles the first.) Dame Martha, his wife, died 27th Dec. 1670, in the ninety-eighth year of her age."

BOOK II.

In the time of Edward the confessor, it was, according to the record, possessed by two freemen, and at the survey had been granted to Edmund, son of Algot. The next recorded possessors were the families of De Thany, Brianzon, Drozensford, and Neville: it was holden under Roger Mortimer, earl of March, by John Noyl (Neville) at the time of his decease in 1360. From this period the accounts are obscure or contradictory, till the time of king Henry the sixth, when it had become the property of a family surnamed Lewis John, about this time first mentioned in the records relating to Essex, as having large possessions here; and in the pedigree of the noble family of Mordaunt, earls of Peterborough, it is stated that in the reign of king Henry the seventh, John Mordaunt, esq. married Ellen, daughter and heiress of sir Richard Fitz-Lewis; which family, we are informed, were derived from Lewis the eighth, who was invited here by the barons in the time of king John. During his stay he had an intrigue with an English lady, co-heiress to a great estate, by whom he had a son, named Lewis Fitz-Lewis. This lady was afterwards married to a nobleman, from whom some of our greatest families are descended. Lewis Fitz-Lewis married Margaret of Essex, and had by her sir John Fitz-Lewis, who acquired fame and knighthood in the first war with Scotland, but was slain at Boroughbridge, fighting in the Lancastrian cause against Edward the second; his estates were therefore confiscated: having married Elizabeth de Harpenden, he left by her his son, sir Richard Fitz-Lewis, to whom the family possessions were restored by king Edward the third. He married Elizabeth le Baude, by whom he had sir John Fitz-Lewis, of West Horndon, who, in the inquisition is called Lodowick John, and died possessed of this manor and other estates in 1442. He married, first, Elizabeth, daughter of Robert Neville, by whom he had Elizabeth, married to sir John Wingfield; secondly, he married Alicia, daughter of John de Vere, twelfth earl of Oxford, by whom he had sir Lewis Fitz-Lewis, and sir Henry Fitz-Lewis. The latter, a brave knight, magnanimously supporting the Lancastrian interest: he married Mary, second sister and co-heiress of Edmund Beaufort, duke of Somerset, by whom he had Mary, his daughter and heiress, first married to Anthony Woodville, earl Rivers, and afterwards to sir John Neville, a natural son of the earl of Westmoreland, to whom she bore Anne, married to sir John Markham. Sir John Lewis Fitz-Lewis married, thirdly, Anne, daughter of John Montacute, earl of Salisbury, and had by her Lodowick, or Lewis John, who appears to have had this estate, which, on his attainure for adhering to the house of Lancaster, was given, by Edward the fourth, to his brother Richard, duke of Gloucester. Sir Lewis John Fitz-Lewis married Margaret Stonor, by whom he had sir Richard Fitz-Lewis, to whom the family estates were restored: he married Mary, daughter and co-heiress of John Harleston, esq. and had by her John, and a daughter named Ella, or Ellen. John Fitz-Lewis, esq. married Anne, daughter of sir Robert Lovel; but on his wedding-night, he and his bride were destroyed by a



disastrous fire, which consumed the ancient manor-house of West Horndon Hall. In consequence of this event, Ella Fitz-Lewis being a great heiress, sir John Mordaunt gave thirteen thousand marks for her wardship, and married her: she died in 1543, in possession of nearly all the estates formerly belonging to her great grandfather, sir John Fitz-Lewis, amounting to five hundred marks a year, which descended to her son, Lewis Mordaunt, who, at the time of her decease, was only five years of age. The estate afterwards became the property of sir William Petre.*

This princely residence of the noble family of Petre is on an eminence, in an extensive park: the mansion is of white brick, built from designs, and under the direction, of the celebrated architect, Paine. It consists of a centre, and two wings, connected by circular corridors. The approach from Brentwood is to the west front, which is of plain appearance; but there is a noble portico on the east, with six beautiful Corinthian pillars, fluted: the lawn falls in a gentle slope, and commands an exceedingly fine prospect into Kent, across the Thames. The hall is a magnificent apartment, forty feet square, the roof supported by eighteen columns, covered with a composition resembling marble, by Wyatt. Various fine portraits of the Petre family ornament the dining-room, in which there are also portraits of Henry the eighth, and Edward the sixth (supposed by Holbein) James the second, earl Darnley, Joan of Arc, the duke of Buckingham, and some others. There is a fine painting of St. Katharine in the state bed-room; the drawing-room measures thirty-eight feet by twenty-six, and is ornamented by portraits of the dowager lady Petre, and Mrs. Onslow, by Cosway. A very handsome apartment is appropriated to the library; it is over the east corridor, and resembles a semi-circular gallery, ornamented with several models of cattle, executed by Garrard, for lord Petre; and elegant busts of Charles James Fox, R. J. Petre, and R. E. Petre. The saloon measures sixty feet by thirty, and contains a great number of portraits. The right wing is occupied by the chapel, which is fitted up with great elegance, and decorated with a fine painting of the Nativity, brought from Rome. Thorndon Hall is distant from Brentwood three, and from London twenty-three miles.

Thorndon
Hall.

GING RALPH.

Ging Ralph, vulgarly Ingrave. The Saxon Geing,† and Ralph, its owner at the time of the survey, accounts for the name of this parish, i. e. “Ralph’s Ing, or meadow.” In records the name is written Ging Raff, Ginges Radulfi, Ging ad Radulphum, Raufre Yengrave. Ging
Ralph.

* The account of the Petre family is given at Writtle, vol. i. p. 177: besides this, their other seats are Buckenham House, Norfolk; and Dunket Hall, Lancashire. Town residence, 3, Mansfield Street.

† This is one of five neighbouring parishes ending or beginning with ing, or ging, viz. Ging Ralph, Mountneys-ing, Ing-att-stone, Friern-ing, Margaret-ing.

BOOK II.

Ging
RalphHall

The manor-house is near the site of the ancient church. This lordship was holden of the barony of Swainscamp, by the family of Montchensy; and on failure of the male line of the oldest branch of that house, in the time of Edward the first, it was given by that king to his sixth son, Edmond of Woodstock, earl of Kent; and, in 1284, William de Montchency held this estate, which, in 1281, was in the possession of Reginald de Ginges; and, in 1314, his son John, and Margery his wife, passed this estate by fine, after their decease, to Richard Gossalin, in right of Alice his wife, said to have been a daughter and heiress of John de Ginges. They held them in 1330: sir Richard Gossalin died previous to the year 1353, and it was in the possession of Robert Gossalin in 1388,* and this family became extinct here previous to the year 1420; the estate being conveyed by the marriage of an heiress to Lodowick, or Lewis John, whose descendant, sir Lewis Fitz-Lewis, forfeited it to the crown, and it was given to Richard duke of Gloucester, on whose defeat and death at the battle of Bosworth, king Henry the seventh restored this manor to sir Richard Fitz-Lewis, who presented to the rectory from 1494 to 1519. It was afterwards conveyed, by the marriage of Ella Fitz-Lewis,† to sir John Mordaunt, of whose family it was purchased by sir William Petre, from whom it has descended to the present lord Petre.‡

Church.

On the union of the livings, a new church was erected in 1734, at the charge of Robert James, lord Petre: it is a plain brick building, situated at nearly an equal distance from either of the ancient churches. The church of West Horndon was below the hall, and that of Ging Ralph at the distance of two miles: they were each of them dedicated to St. Nicholas.‡

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to forty-five; increased to sixty-three in 1831.

* This family name is written variously, Godsalyne, Godsalf, Godselm, Goshalm, Gosholme, Gossalin, Gossalyne, Goselyn, Gosselyne.

† An estate named Field House, which passed with Ging Ralph to lord Petre, had previously, in the reign of Henry the fourth, belonged to the family of Coggeshall.

‡ There is an inscription in Latin over the west door of the church, of which the following is a translation: "Sacred to God and St. Nicholas, Robert James Petre, baron of Writtle, on the union of the parishes of West Horndon and Ingrave, by act of parliament, built this church, 1734."

Inscrip-
tions.

In the old church below the hall, there was an elegant monument of black marble, with an escutcheon, and the representation of a female kneeling, between two children; these figures had been so much injured, that they could not be placed in the new church; it was for a female of the Southcott family. Two stones belonging to the family of Fitz-Lewis have been removed into the new church; they are covered with male and female figures, and coats of arms. One of these bears an imperfect inscription which Mr. Salmon endeavours to render intelligible, and translates as follows: "Here lieth Margaret, wife . . . daughter of Lewis John, knt. son of John Fitz-Lewis, and Anne his wife, afterwards the wife of the most noble lord John, late duke of Exeter, which Margaret died 17th day of August, A.D. 1400."



HORNDON ON THE HILL.

This parish is on a hill, from which the prospect of the surrounding country is of wide extent, and very beautiful; and from the highest part of this eminence a valley is seen extending either way, in which London appears at a remote distance, with Tilbury Fort, Gravesend, the coast of Kent, and numerous villages on the Essex side of the Thames, to the Nore and Sheerness, thirty miles either way. The parish is three miles in length from north to south, two in breadth from east to west, and eight miles in circumference.

Horndon
on the
Hill.

The village is small; it had formerly a market on Saturdays, and fairs in June and July, for wool, which, if not discontinued, have sunk into insignificance: distant from Brentwood ten, and from London twenty-four miles.

Uluric, a freeman, had the lands of this parish previous to the Conquest, and, at the survey, they were holden by Eustace, earl of Boulogne, whose under-tenant was named Garner. It was afterwards divided into three manors.

The mansion of Ardern Hall is a good old brick building, at the eastern extremity of the town. This is the largest manor, and its most ancient owners, after earl Eustace, were the family of De Arden, from whom the place has been named. The families of Fabel, Shaa, and Pooley, were the owners of this estate in succession; William Pooley, esq. of the Pooleys of Boxted, in Suffolk, who died in 1587, had this estate; and lady Anne Pooley enjoyed it in 1635. It was afterwards purchased by the Kingsman family, and belonged to Benjamin Kingsman, esq. in 1770: it now belongs to — Theobald, esq.

Ardern
Hall.

The manor-house of Malgreffs is a mile from the town, on the left of the road to Langdon hills: the estate belonged to Arnulph Malegreffe in 1200, who, as the record states, in that year paid two marks to the scutage of Normandy. It remained in this family till toward the close of the fifteenth century, and in 1550 was purchased by sir John Tyrell. It was in the possession of Edward Archer, esq. in 1600; and Anne, daughter of Thomas Andrews, of London, conveyed it in marriage to her husband, Thomas Cotton, esq. of Conington, in Cambridgeshire, from whom it descended to their daughter and heiress, Frances, wife of Dingley Askam, esq. of Conington, the owner of this estate in 1772. It now belongs to Mrs. Baker.

Malgreffs,
or Mal-
graves.

The mansion of this manor is a mile north from the church. The estate was detached from the other parts of the parish as early as the time of king Edward the third; in 1337, it belonged to Maud, wife of John de Handloe, and to Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex in 1372; and it was holden of him by Abel de Withfield, from whom it took its name. Thomas Sampken, esq. and Christopher Cibborn, esq. succeeded; and the estate passed afterwards into the possession of Thomas Wright, esq. who settled it on his wife Esther for life, then on Simon, his

Wythfield.

BOOK II. son and heir. Geoffrey Tucker, esq. had it afterwards, who sold it to William Vernon, esq. and it was afterwards purchased of Jasper Kingsman, esq. of the Middle Temple.

Horndon House. Thomas Highbed, yeoman, who was burnt here for heresy, in the reign of queen Mary the first, on the 26th of March, 1555, had a messuage and sixty acres of land called Horndon House, and a cottage.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Peter, is pleasantly situated near the centre of the town. It has a nave, north aisle, and chancel, with a tower of stone, and a wooden spire.*

This church belonged to the abbess and nuns of Barking, and was, with the advowson of the vicarage, granted, by Henry the eighth, to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, who are the present owners.

The number of inhabitants in this parish, in 1821, was four hundred and twenty; increased to five hundred and eleven in 1831.

DUNTON.

Dunton. This parish lies between east Horndon and Horndon on the Hill, and extends two miles and a half from north to south, and from east to west about three quarters of a mile. Distant from Brentwood six, and from London twenty-four miles.

Ulwin, a priest, and a freeman held these lands in the Confessor's reign; and, at the survey, they formed part of the possessions of Odo, bishop of Bayeux; and Godwin Gudhen had seized what had belonged to Ulwin. It was afterwards divided into two manors.

Dunton Hall. On Odo's being deprived of his possessions, the Conqueror gave this manor to the abbey of Bee, in Normandy: Negal de Albini gave lands here to that abbey in the time of Henry the second, and afterwards became a monk of that foundation, where he died. Dunton Hall was holden of the abbey by Humphrey de Walden, in 1331, and by John de Vere, in 1358. This manor belonging to an alien priory was seized, either by king Edward the third or Henry the fifth, but to whom it was immediately granted is not known. The advowson was in the family of Inglefield, who presented

* Among the monumental inscriptions are memorials of the following persons: Of Jasper Kingsman, of the Middle Temple, and of this parish, who died 24th June, 1686, aged thirty-six. Also of several others of the same family: also of the Caldwell family, who formerly had possessions here.

On the south wall: "In memory of Thomas Ashen, A.M. born in this neighbourhood, who finished his education at Cambridge; lived piously and died resigned, in 1684. Also Frances, his beloved wife, was buried here in 1694." On a decayed monument is the following:—

"Take, gentle marble, to thy trust,
And keep unmix'd this sacred dust;
Grow moist sometimes, that I may see
Thou weep'st in sympathy with me;

| And when by him I here shall sleep,
My ashes also safely keep.
And from rude hands preserve us both, until
We rise to Sion's mount, from Horndon on the Hill."

to the living from 1422 to 1431, and is therefore supposed to have had the estate. In 1442, sir Lewis John died possessed of it, and, in 1467, it was given, by Edward the fourth, with the advowson, to Thomas Wilmot (vicar of Ashford, in Kent) and his successors, to provide two fit chaplains, and two secular clerks, to pray in that church, for the said king and a few others, during their lives; and after their decease for their souls, and the souls of the near relations of that king, and of several of his friends slain at the battles of Northampton, St. Albans, and Sherborn. After the suppression of alien priories, this estate became vested in the provost and fellows of King's College, Cambridge, who presented to the church in 1532, and have retained the manor and advowson to the present time.

CHAP.
XVI.

The manor of Friern belongs to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, in London; the house is in a low situation, half a mile north from the church.

Friern.

A capital messuage named Dunton Waylet, was holden of King's College by George Drywood, esq. who died in 1603.

Dunton
Waylet.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is pleasantly situated on rising ground; it has a nave and chancel, and a wooden belfry, with a spire.

Church.

In 1821, this parish contained one hundred and thirty-three, which, in 1831, had increased to one hundred and seventy-three inhabitants.

BULFAN, OR BULVAN.

The parish of Bulfan lies south from Dunton, and extends westward to the brook, which, in its course to Purfleet by the reflux of the tide, considerably overflows the country producing the marsh lands of Orset, and Bulfan fens; and there is a tradition that formerly, in high tides, boats could sail up this stream as far as Orsett hall. From east to west the parish extends three miles, and from north to south, a mile and a half. Distant from Brentwood seven, and from London twenty-five miles.

Bulfan.

Anciently this parish belonged to the nunnery of Barking, and the manor and advowson were retained by that house till the dissolution of monasteries.

The hall is near the east end of the church, and has been sold from the manor: Wick house is on low ground, eastward; in 1540 it was granted, with the manor, by Henry the eighth, to Edward Bury, who held this estate, Railey park, and the lodge, at the time of his decease, in 1630. Henry Bury and Jasper Kingsman presented to this living in 1692, and the advowson and the manor were shared between their families. The estate now belongs to the Bonham family.

Bulfan
Hall, and
the Wick.

Bulfan church is a small ancient building, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. It has a wooden belfry and spire. On the south of the chancel are some remains of a chapel.

Church.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and forty-two, which, in 1831, had decreased to two hundred and thirty-six.

BOOK II.

ORSETT.

Orsett. The Saxon Hopyrhæð, the Horse's heath, appears to have been gradually changed by a barbarous and imperfect pronunciation to the present name, written in records, Horset, Dorsed, Orfodd, and Orzed. Horseheath, in Cambridgeshire, is commonly pronounced Horset.

Before the Conquest, this parish belonged to the see of London, but part of it had been given to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, at the survey: and this division of the estate produced two manors.

Orsett Hall. Orsett Hall is north-west from the church; in old writings it is sometimes named Ladysons, and sometimes White House. It is a large and apparently very ancient building. The see of London had this estate till the time of queen Elizabeth, when it became the property of the crown, in which it continued till 1614, when it was granted, by James the first, to Francis Downes, esq. of Orsett, and his heirs, for ever. It remained in this family till 1650, when, either by marriage or otherwise, it became the property of John Hatt, esq.* in whose family it continued till the year 1722, when, on failure of heirs male, it descended to the two daughters of Pigott Hatt, esq.; one of these was married to Richard Letchmere, and the other to John Lidgould, clerk, who, with his wife, in 1729, alienated their moiety of this estate to Richard Letchmere, and he, in 1746, died in possession of the whole, which was sold, by his trustees, to Richard Baker, esq. who dying in 1751, left his son Richard his heir.

The manor of Orsett is almost the only one of its size in the county that has no other within itself. There are two considerable hamlets belonging to it, the one called Baker's Street; the other lies beyond Stock, yet is part of this parish; it is called Crondon Park, consisting of farms, all belonging to lord Petre. The manor of Orsett holds a court leet and court baron sometimes twice or oftener in the year, and is computed to contain about six thousand acres of land, including its two hamlets.

Lost Hall. This manor is what belonged to earl Eustace: after being successively the property of various persons, it was given to maintain a chantry for one chaplain to perform divine service at the altar of St. Mary, under St. Mary's chapel, within the bishop of London's palace, joining the church of St. Paul, to pray for the soul of Robert Braybroke, sometime bishop of that diocese. After the dissolution it was granted, by queen Elizabeth, in 1559, to Edward Baesh,† esq. and Henry Parker; and passed to Owen Clunne, who died in 1563, whose heir was Anne, wife of John Shepherd, of Batchcot, in Shropshire; and it belonged to Francis Downes, esq. in 1616.

Sabur. Sabur, or Seborow manor, extends into the parishes of Orsett, Mucking, and

* Arms of Hatt: Quarterly, argent and gules, a bend dexter, sable, with three chaplets, or.

† He was in high repute in the time of Henry the eighth, and was seated at Stansted Abbots, in Hertfordshire.—See Sir Henry Chauncey's *Hist. of Hertfordshire*, p. 124.

Chadwell. It is on the road from Horndon on the Hill to Chadwell; anciently it belonged to the hospital of St. Mary's, Bishopsgate-without, London: it afterwards belonged to John Wiseman, of Felsted, and to William Strangeman, esq. CHAP.
XVI.

Crondon, or Cranham park, is a considerable parcel of land, between the parishes of Stock and Margaretting, and thirteen miles north from Orsett, yet it is a hamlet to this parish. It was formerly a park, but has been thrown into farms, all of which belong to lord Petre, except a small part, which has belonged to the Tabor and other families. Crondon.

The church, dedicated to St. Giles and All Saints, is a large ancient building, with a nave, north and south aisles, and chancel, with north and south chapels; the whole is in good repair, with a brick tower and a wooden spire.* Thomas Hotoft founded and endowed a chantry in this church. Church.

In 1821, this parish contained one thousand, one hundred and thirty inhabitants, which, in 1831, had increased to one thousand, two hundred and seventy-four.

LITTLE THURROCK.

Of the three parishes of this name, on the border of the river Thames, this is the most easterly, and therefore sometimes named East Thurrock. It is twenty-five miles from London. Little
Thurrock.

Ulwin, a freeman, had this estate in the time of Edward the confessor, and, at the survey, it was styled the fee of the bishop of London; so denominated to distinguish it from "terra episcopi Londinensis," the bishop of London's land; the first of these being his private estate, distinct from what belonged to the see. There are three manors.

* In the chapel belonging to Orsett Hall there is a handsome monument to the memory of John Hatt, esq. who died the 12th day of April, 1658, in the fifty-eighth year of his age. There are also monuments to the memory of Robert Kinge, parson of this church, who died Nov. 3, 1584, aged forty-seven: of Matthias Stiles, S. T. P. proctor of the University of Oxford, sub-rector of Exeter College, chaplain to the queen, and rector here, who died in 1652. Inscrip-
tions.

Among the numerous charities in this parish are the following: an estate of forty acres called Goldwell, was given, in 1495, by Thomas Hotofte, in behofe of the parishioners of Orsett, to bear out the common fine of Orsett for ever.—A copyhold tenement of ten acres, called Slades Hill, was left to the poor of this parish; the donor unknown.—An annuity of five pounds, on land at Dover Court, left by Ambrose Gilbert, B.D. who also left (as appears from the following extract from his will) an estate to found a fellowship, &c. in Cambridge. "Item: I bequeath Marsh House, in St. Osseth, Essex, with all the lands and woods belonging thereunto, to the founding of a fellowship and scholarship in St. John's College, Cambridge, and do appoint to be capable of those places, first, the Gilberts, next the Torkingtons, then Colchester school, lastly, Orsett in Essex."—One moiety of a tenement and twenty acres of land, and five acres called Pye Corner, and three tenements in Orsett, and four in London, with numerous other possessions, were left to the poor of Orsett in 1643, by Alice, wife of Isaac Heminge.—There are almshouses in Baker Street, purchased with money left by Peter Castle, for the use of the poor. There are also almshouses near the church.—Jasper Kingsman left ten sixpenny loaves to be given to the poor every Lord's day, and John Blatch gave forty loaves to be given every May day. Charities.

BOOK II.

Manor of
Little
Thurrock.

The mansion of this manor is near the church: in the time of Edward the second or Edward the third, it belonged to a family surnamed De Gravesend, and was in the family of Carew from 1372 to 1393; of William Skreen in 1408, and of John Berdfield in 1437. Thomas Sampson, or Samkin, esq. was in possession of it in 1539, and it afterwards passing to the crown, was granted, by Philip and Mary, to Thomas White and others, in 1558. It was again in the crown in queen Elizabeth's time. Sir John Lewes held it in 1596, and it was afterwards granted, by king James the first, to Robert Stratford. Thomas Lakes presented to the living from 1605 to 1670: Abraham Fothergill in 1681: sir Robert Dashwood, bart. and others, in 1697. The estate was afterwards mortgaged to — Newburgh, esq. of Ireland, and purchased by Francis Hayes, esq. of the Temple, whose nephew and heir, Charles Hayes, esq. sold it to Mr. James Green, cornfactor, of London, who sold it, with the advowson, to Ebenezer Mussel, esq. who died in 1764.

Torells
Hall.

The mansion of Torells Hall is by the side of the road near the pound. This estate was detached from the chief manor, and belonged to the Torell family as early as the reign of Henry the second, in which it continued till 1560, when it was conveyed, by marriage, to Henry Jocelyn, esq. fourth son of sir Thomas Jocelyn, of Hyde Hall, whose son sold the estate to sir Thomas Leveson. It afterwards belonged to Nicholas Grice, esq. and being sold by a decree in chancery to pay his debts, was purchased by colonel Henry Cornewall, of Bradwardine Castle, in Herefordshire. Its next owner was general Cornewall, who, on his decease, left it to a female who had lived with him several years, and who was married to Mr. Moore, of Ireland, to whom she bequeathed this estate; and he left it to his brother, Blunden Moore, esq.

Berewes.

Berewes was also taken from the paramount manor: the house is on the road leading to Chadwell, into which parish this manor extends. The account of this estate is imperfect. Roger Mortimer, earl of March, who died in 1360, had one fee here, called Berewes, which William Squyry held of him; and which was holden by John Squyry, under a succeeding earl of the same name, in 1398; and under Joan, widow of sir John Grey, in 1425; also holden in 1352, by John Surey, under John Plantagenet, earl of Kent. Thomas Springe, in 1523, had this estate, which, in 1567, in Hilary term, Clement Siseley, and Anne his wife, and Agnes Kidderminster, widow, were enjoined to deliver possession of to Joanna Laxton. Afterwards the estate belonged to John Russel, esq. of North Okendon.

Church.

The church is of one pace with the chancel: it is dedicated to the Virgin Mary. In the south wall of the chancel there are arches, supported by pillars, forming a recess, apparently intended for the reception of a monument, or a statue.

In 1821, this parish contained one hundred and ninety-two inhabitants, which, in 1831, had increased to three hundred and two.

CHADWELL, OR CHALDWELL.

This parish is fifteen miles in circumference, extending from Little Thurrock to West Tilbury. The village consists of a few scattered houses: distant from Romford fourteen, and from London twenty-six miles.* Chadwell.

In Edward the confessor's reign, this parish was in the possession of Aluric, a king's thane, Edwolt, the king's sheriff, and Godman, a freeman. At the time of the survey, the bishop of London held the largest portion, under the title of his fee; Odo, bishop of Bayeux, had the next considerable share; and Grime the sheriff, and Hubert de Pont, another. The bishop of London's under-tenant was Hugolin; and Odo's, the son of Tuold. These lands were afterwards divided into four manors.

The manor-house is near the church, and the earliest notice of this estate after the survey is about the year 1250, when it was holden, with the advowson of the church, under the bishop of London, by a family surnamed De Wokindon.† It afterwards was conveyed to the Halughtons, or Haltons, and to several others, by intermarriages. John de Bois had the estate in 1409, and Nicholas de Rykhill in 1422. The manor and advowson afterwards belonged to Philip Malpas, citizen and draper, of London. Elizabeth, his only daughter and heiress, was married to sir Thomas Cooke, of Geddea Hall; her son Philip succeeded. Sir Edward Cooke, knt. a descendant of this family, left two daughters, co-heiresses: Anne, married to sir Edward Sydenham; and Vere, the wife of sir Charles Gawdy, of Crowshall, in Suffolk. The latter had this estate. It afterwards belonged to Thomas Velley, gent. and was soon afterwards purchased Chadwell Hall.

* The soil of this parish is generally deep and heavy; the lands rising above the marshes, and the surrounding district distinguished by extensive chalk works. There are numerous caverns or holes among these rocks, of various depths and unequal dimensions, which are considered of great antiquity. Camden describes them as artfully built with stone, and opening from the top by a narrow circular passage, which near the bottom widens, communicating with subterraneous apartments of various forms. Dr. Derham measured six of these caverns, and found them respectively of the depths of fifty feet, five or six inches; seventy feet, ten inches; eighty feet; and eighty feet, four inches. The origin of these caverns is uncertain: they have been attributed to the Britons, and supposed to have been used as granaries; others believe they have been occupied by the Danes as receptacles of plunder. Many of these caverns are on grounds near the highway from Stifford to Chadwell; some are within the bounds of the parish of Little Thurrock, and in East Tilbury there is a field called Cave Field, in which there is an horizontal passage to a cavern. Caverns.

When Tilbury Fort was enlarged, in the time of king Charles the second, the road was turned into Chadwell, being that which comes in at a gate, and goes on to the fort. The inhabitants of Chadwell were indicted for not repairing so much of this road as lay in their parish: but, on a trial at the assizes at Chelmsford, in 1741, it appearing that the governors of the fort had kept the road in repair, out of the profits of the ferry, from the time it was first turned into Chadwell, they were ordered to continue so to do, and consequently the inhabitants of this parish were acquitted. Road to the fort.

† Arms of Wokindon: Gules, a lion argent, crowned or; otherwise, gules, a lion barré, argent and azure.

BOOK II. by sir Robert Smyth, bart. Sir Trafford Smyth sold it, with the advowson, in 1749, to Mr. Hyder, of Grays Thurrock, who afterwards dispossessed himself of the advowson, but retained the manor.

Ingleby. The manor-house of Ingleby has been taken down: it stood near the two trees where the court is held, but there are some buildings near the ferry, belonging to the demesnes. This manor was originally part of the fee of the bishop of London; and Stephen de Gravesend, bishop, in 1337 passed, by fine, these lands in Chadwell and Southminster, to William Vigerons and others, who granted them to the bishop for his life; remainder to Thomas de Gravesend, in tail; remainder to Thomas, son of Henry le Chamberlaine. Thomas de Gravesend held it under Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex. In 1364, Joan, widow of sir Thomas de Gravesend, holding this in dower, conveyed it to Thomas de Ingleby, from whose family the name was derived. Peter Simonds, in the year 1587, was the next owner after the Inglebies, and was succeeded by his nephew Richard. This estate now belongs to the poor of Winchester.

Long house, or Chadwell Place. This manor is not mentioned in records till the time of Henry the sixth: sir William Skreue held it in 1430, and sir Thomas Tyrell, who died in 1476; after whom the next possessor was John Russell, esq. of North Okendon.

Bigging. The mansion of this manor is on the road toward Little Thurrock; the name Saxon, Bigange, a habitation or manor-house. It belonged to the abbey of Stratford Langthorn, and was holden under them by sir Ralph Jocelyn, in 1478. After the dissolution of the monastery, it was granted, in 1544, to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, in London, who have retained possession of it to the present time.

Cowpers. An estate named Cowpers is a reputed manor: Roger Tasker died in 1595, in possession of this estate, with tenements called Shepherds, Mots, Slepers, Tholmans, and other parcels on Orsett Heath, in this parish.

The church is on the side of a hill, the nave and chancel of one pace, and nearly of the same breadth; and at the west end, a stone tower rises to a considerable height: it is dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

In 1821, Chadwell contained two hundred and two inhabitants, and, in 1831, only one hundred and eighty.

WEST TILBURY.

West Tilbury. This parish extends from Chadwell to the Thames, and is three miles long, and one broad. In the seventh century there was a considerable town here, though it has since been reduced to a small village.* It is stated in records, that when Cedda, or St. Chad, spread the Christian religion in this county, he built churches in several

* A medicinal spring was discovered here in 1727, about twelve feet beneath the surface of a small eminence, rising above the marshes. It is said to have been found highly beneficial in various disorders. An account is given of it in a letter from Mr. Kellaway to Smart Lethieullier, esq.

places, but “especially in the city, by the Saxons named Ythancestre; and also in that which is named Tillaburgh; where, gathering a flock of the servants of Christ, he taught them to observe the discipline of a regular life, as far as those rude people were then capable.”* Ythancestre is supposed to have stood at the mouth of the river Pant, or Blackwater; but it was, at a remote period, overwhelmed and buried beneath the waves. The village of West Tilbury is sixteen miles from Romford, and from London twenty-six.†

In the time of the Saxons, this parish belonged to Aluric, a priest; and a freeman; and, at the survey, had become the possession of Suene, whose under-tenants were Osbern and Ralph, two Frenchmen: afterwards it was divided into two manors.

The mansion of the chief manor is near the church, north-westward: Robert de Tilbury‡ held this manor in the reign of Henry the second, which remained with his descendants till the year 1319, when it was granted, with the advowson and the chapel, to Richard Abel; and, in 1362, sir Thomas Vaughan died possessed of it, succeeded by sir Hamo, his son and heir. Afterwards passing to several female heirs, the estate was divided, till it became the property of Richard Jenoure, esq. of Bigods, in Dunmow, who died in 1548; and Wiburga, his widow, was re-married to sir Richard Weston, who, in her right, held a moiety of the estate till sir Kenelm Jenoure, bart. succeeded his grandfather, on whose decease, in 1629, he gave it to his daughter Anne, who, by marriage, conveyed it to sir Richard Hatton; and he dying without issue, in 1677, was succeeded by his brother, sir Robert, who died in 1684, leaving his son Thomas§ his heir, who sold this estate to Mr. John Kellaway, whose widow had it after his decease in 1737, and sold it to captain Richard Mielefield, of the East India company, from whom it descended to his nephew, Richard Hunt, esq. It is now in the possession of John Newing, esq.

West
Tilbury
manor.

The mansion of Condovers is on a green, near the parsonage: the estate belonged to Edward Baker, esq. of Bowers Gifford, who died in 1535; and to H. Baker, who died in 1605,|| Philip Howard was the next owner; and sold it to John Brewster,

Condo-
vers.

* Bede's Ecclesiastical History, book iii. chap. 22.

† The marshes in this neighbourhood are chiefly rented by the grazing butchers of London, who generally stock them with Lincolnshire and Leicestershire wethers, which are sent here in September or October, to feed till Christmas, or Candlemas, when they are taken to the London market.

‡ Gervase of Tilbury, the historian, who flourished in 1210, was a native of this place, and a nephew of king Henry the second. He wrote a Commentary on Geofrey of Monmouth's British History: also a Tripartite History of England. His other works are—*Otia Imperialia*, printed in the *Rerum Brunsvicensium Scriptores*, edited by Leibnitz. A History of the Holy Land. *Origines Burgundionum*. The compilation of the Exchequer Book, entitled, *Liber Niger Scaccarii*, was ascribed to him, but Mr. Maddox, who published a correct edition of it, gives it to Richard Nelson, bishop of London.

Gervase
of Tilbury

§ Alice, second daughter of Robert Hatton, esq. second son of serjeant Hatton, was married to Charles Hornby, esq. secondary of the Pipe office. Arms of Hatton: Azure, a chevron between three garbs, or.

|| Upon the decease of Henry Baker this estate was allotted to Ann the wife of Thomas Bendist, esq. of Steeple Bumstead, as one of his co-heiresses.

BOOK II. from whom it descended, to John Brewster, esq. of the Cursitor's office, whose grandfather was Francis, fourth son of Francis Brewster, esq. of Wrentham Hall, in Suffolk.*

Tilbury
Fort.

This building is on the banks of the Thames, opposite Gravesend, and was originally erected by Henry the eighth as a blockhouse;† it was enlarged, and made a regular fortification, by Charles the second, after the Dutch fleet had sailed up the river, in the year 1667, and burnt three English man-of-war ships at Chatham. The esplanade is very large, and the bastions are the largest of any in England; they are faced with brick, and surrounded with a double ditch or moat, the innermost being one hundred and eighty feet broad, and having a good counterscarp. On the land side are two small redoubts of brick; but on this side its chief strength consists in its being made capable of being altogether laid under water, as far as the level extends. On the side next the river, there is a very strong curtain, having a gate in the middle, called the water gate, and a ditch palisaded. At the place intended for the water-bastion, and which, by the plan, should have run out into the river, so as to command both the curtains, stands a high tower, erected by queen Elizabeth, which was called the Blockhouse.‡ Before this curtain is a platform, instead of a counterscarp, mounted, in time of war, with one hundred and six cannons, from twenty-four to forty-six pounders, besides which there are smaller pieces, placed between them and the bastions and curtains. The interior of the fort contains all the necessary apartments for the garrison; but it is chiefly used as a depôt for the recruits of the district.

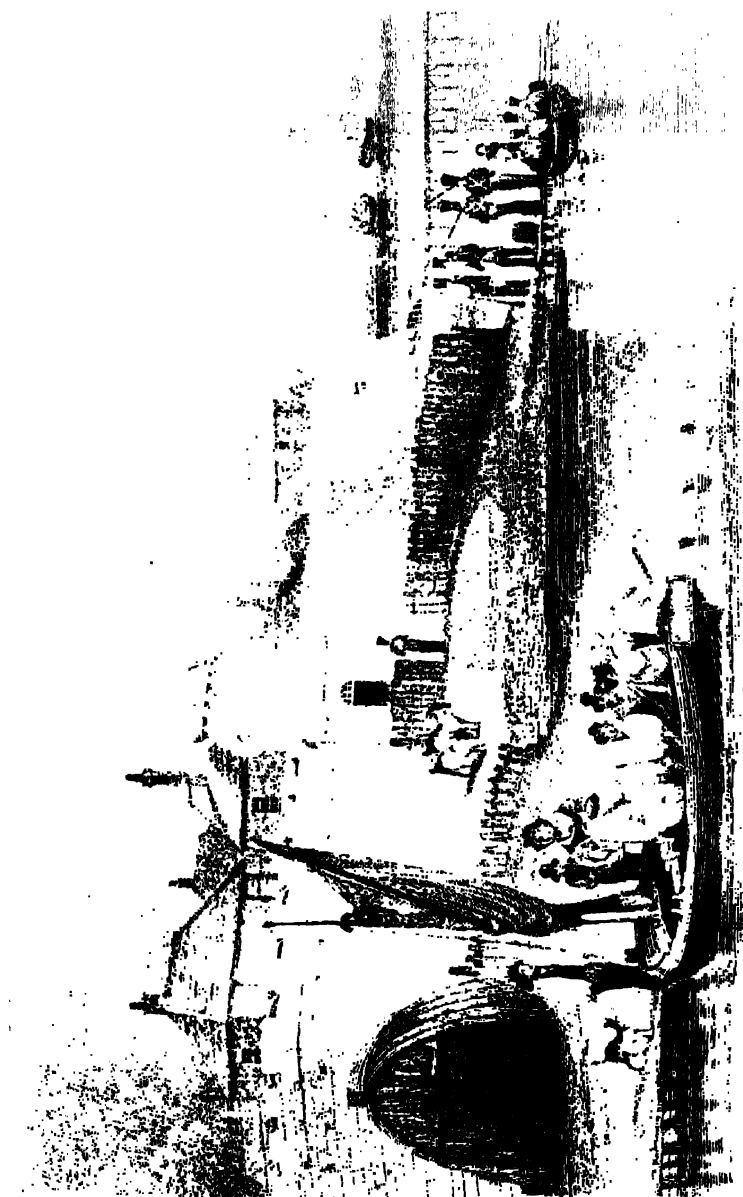
Church. The church is dedicated to St. James, and pleasantly situated on rising ground,

* This was part of Captain Micklefield's property; now belongs to Mr. Hunt.

† Lombard's Topographical Dictionary.

Speech of
queen Eli-
zabeth.

‡ Queen Elizabeth established her army here in 1588, when the kingdom was threatened with invasion by the Spanish Armada, and traces of the encampment may yet be seen: it was near the place where there has been a windmill. The patriotic address delivered by the queen on this occasion, has been justly admired; it was as follows:—"My loving people,—We have been persuaded, by some that are careful of our safety, to take heed how we commit ourselves to armed multitudes, for fear of treachery; but I assure you, that I do not live to distrust my loving and faithful people. Let tyrants fear. I have always so behaved myself that, under God, I have placed my chiefest strength and safeguard in the loyal hearts and goodwill of my subjects. And I therefore am come amongst you, as you see at this time, not for any recreation or disport, but being resolved, in the midst and heat of battle, to live or die amongst you all; to lay down, for my God, and for my kingdom and my people, my honour and my blood, even in the dust. I know I have the body but of a weak and feeble woman, but I have the heart and stomach of a king—and of a king of England too! and think foul scorn, that Parma or Spain, or any prince of Europe, should dare to invade the borders of my realm; to which, rather than any dishonour should grow by me, I myself will take up arms; I myself will be your general, judge and record of every one of your virtues in the field. I know already for your forwardness you have deserved crowns; and we do assure you, on the word of a prince, they shall be duly paid you. In the meantime, my lieutenant-general (Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester,) shall be in my stead, than whom never prince commanded more noble or worthy subjects: not doubting but by your obedience to my general, by your concord in the camp, and your valour in the field, we shall shortly have a most glorious victory over those enemies of my God, of my kingdom, and of my people."



from which there is an extensive prospect toward the Thames and the Channel. Formerly there was a very high tower of stone, but it fell down, and a wooden frame and spire have supplied its place. The original building had a north aisle, which was omitted on its re-edification, except what forms the north porch.* The rectory was appendant to the manor, but in 1345 was given by John de Poulteney the Chantry of Corpus Christi in the church of St. Lawrence, in Candlewick Street, London; and since the dissolution, has remained in the crown.†

A chapel formerly stood on the site of the Fort distinguished by its name of West Lee chapel, from the chapel of East Lee, at Langdon. The founder of this chapel was supposed to be of the de Tilbury family: it was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen, with a chaplain to officiate for ever for the souls of the king's predecessors: it was founded in the time of Thomas the Martyr. In the return in the book of Chantries, this chapel is stated to be a mile or more from the parish-church. Sir Thomas Vaughan presented Nicholas de Hall to it in 1335.

West Lee
Chapel.

The population of this parish, in 1821, was two hundred and forty-nine, and in 1831, two hundred and seventy-six.

EAST TILBURY.

This parish lies eastward from West Tilbury, on the border of the Thames, and extends to a portion of the river named Tilbury Hope. It is three miles from south-west to north-east; and two miles and a half from east to west. From Brentwood distant fourteen, and from London twenty-eight, miles.

East Til-
bury.

Before the Conquest, the lands of this parish were holden by a freeman: and at the survey, Tedric Pointel, and his under-tenant Humald, held them. At that time they formed only one manor, but have since been divided into five.

The mansion of this manor is near the church, on the west: it belonged to Edmund Kemeseck, or Kewseck, who died in 1288; and to William, son of Philip de Welle at the time of his decease in 1349; he had with it the advowson of the church, and the passage, or ferry over the river. His daughter Joane was his heiress, and was married to sir Henry de Coggeshall. The estate was purchased, together with Sabury hall, for the endowment of the rectory of St. Anne at Limehouse, with 3500l., granted by act of parliament for that purpose, in 1729: the church at Limehouse being one of the fifty new churches built at that time in and about London.

East Til-
bury Ma-
nor.

* In the aisle of the ancient church, there was a grave-stone in the form of a coffin, ornamented with crosses; it now forms the sill of one of the windows.

† Lands in this parish, named Wikes, or Wike court, form part of the endowment of Chelmsford Charities school.

Five acres of land were given for two obits in this church, and one acre and a half for a lamp. A charity of twenty shillings yearly is given to poor labouring men at Easter.

BOOK II. The name of this manor was derived from its most ancient owners. William de
St.Clere's. Sancto Claro, or St. Clere, was in possession of it in 1266. It afterwards belonged to a family named Mosle, or Moseley; and in 1484 sir John Scott died in possession of it. In 1588, the manor belonged to the queen, under whom it was holden by fealty. Sir Charles Inglefield had this possession, which he sold to Thomas Grant; who in 1716 sold it to sir William Humphreys, bart., of Barking.

Gobyons. The manor-house of Gobyons is a mile north from the church near the river; its name is derived from a knightly family who have left their name to many places in this county. From the Gobions, this manor passed to Edmund Kemesek, and to sir Richard de Sutton, who died in 1395, holding this manor of Joane, countess of Hereford. Afterwards the Birdford family had this estate, which for a considerable time took their name. It belonged to John de Vere, earl of Oxford, and his descendant Edward, the seventeenth earl, is believed to have sold it. In 1606 it belonged to Edward Lawrence, esq.; and afterwards to Champion Branfil, esq., of Upminster Hall, and now belongs to his descendants.

Gossalyne. The mansion of Gossalyne, or Gossaline, is three quarters of a mile north-west from the church. This estate belonged to Richard Gossalyne, who on his death in 1332 was succeeded by his son Richard, and in 1354 Robert, son and heir of sir Richard Gossalin, conveyed it to John Merlaw. In the beginning of the reign of queen Elizabeth, William Strangman and Anne his wife held it by the name of Goshalines: and sir Thomas Wiseman held it in 1635, of the honour of Mandeville.

Southall. This manor is in the south part of the parish. The pound belonging to it is near the church; but the manor-house was at a considerable distance in the marshes. In 1372, Edmund, son of Simon, held this estate of the earl of Hereford; and it is believed to have been in the possession of the Gobion family. This estate is appropriated to the repairs of Rochester Bridge, but by whom it was given is not known.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Katharine, has a nave, north aisle, and chancel; the tower was on the south, or south-west angle, of stone embattled; but was beat down by the Dutch in the time of Charles the second.*

This church was a sinecure rectory, with a vicar, as early as 1325, the patronage of the rectory being in the lords of the manor of East Tilbury, till 1389, when John, lord Cobham, had it appropriated to his college at Cobham, by authority of a bull from pope Urban VI: and on the suppression of chantries, it passed to the crown, where it has remained to the present time.

Chuntries. A chantry was founded in this parish by sir Thomas Gobyon, in 1328, for a chaplain, to perform divine service daily at the altar of St. Katharine in this church. On

* A gift of twenty shillings yearly to the poor, out of a farm called the Folly, is distributed at Christmas and Midsummer, with some other trifling benefactions.

its suppression, the lands belonging to it were granted to Thomas, nephew of the lord chancellor Audeley. There was also another chantry here, the endowment of which was granted to William Goldham.

CHAP.
XVI.

The Roman road of Higham causeway, of which some traces yet remain, from Rochester by Higham, points in the direction of the ancient ferry over the Thames here, which is believed to have been the place where the emperor Claudius crossed the river Thames in pursuit of the Britons, as related by Dion Cassius. In 1821, this parish contained two hundred and fifty-four, and in 1831, two hundred and fifty-five inhabitants.

The Ferry

MUCKING.

This parish is two miles from east to west, and two and a half from north to south: it lies very low; the soil gravelly. Two streams meet and form a creek where the village is situated, near the Thames; distant from Brentwood eleven, and from London twenty-eight, miles.

Mucking.

Previous to the Conquest, Mucking belonged to the nunnery of Barking, and was afterwards divided into two manors.

This manor in 1341, belonged to John, son of John de Walton, and afterwards to John de Verë, thirteenth earl of Oxford, who died in 1512; he held it of Elizabeth, abbess of Barking, by the service of one knight's fee, yearly rent of ten shillings, and suit at the court of Mucking Hall; and on the death of every tenant, one of the best beasts for an heriot.

Waltons.

After the dissolution of religious houses, this estate was granted, in 1547, by Edward the sixth, to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, and their successors. The manor-house is on the south of the church.

Mucking
Hall.

The church, dedicated to St. John the Baptist, has a nave, south aisle, and chancel, with a stone tower, and a shingled spire.*

Church.

The population of this parish in 1821, amounted to one hundred and eighty-nine, and in 1831, to two hundred and twelve.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE.

A stone, or paved ford here, where there is now a bridge † over the stream which forms the boundary to Stanford, Mucking, and Horndon-on-the-Hill, has given the

Stanford-
le-Hope.

* A monument in the aisle bears an inscription to the memory of Elizabeth Downes, who lived in happy matrimony with four several husbands, namely, Eugenius Gatton, Thomas Gill, Denfil Hatridge, and Francis Downes, all kind and loving gentlemen. She was ever religious, charitable, and a good house-keeper. She has given yearly, for ever, to the church and poor of this parish, twenty nobles: to the poor of Horndon twenty shillings, and to the poor of Stanford twenty shillings. She lived a happy life on earth, and made a blessed end 30th of January, 1607: her four husbands also lie buried here.

Inscrip-
tion.

† Half the arch of this bridge, north and south, is maintained by Stanford; the south-west quarter by Mucking; and the north-west by Horndon.

BOOK II. name ; and the bay formed by the winding of the river, called by seamen the Hope, has been applied as a surname to this parish : it is said to have anciently formed two distinct hamlets, named Stanford and Hassingbroke ; and the circumstance of there having been a free chapel here, the advowson to which went with the Abbot's manor, is an evidence of the truth of this statement. It is distant from Brentwood ten, and from London twenty-nine, miles.

In the Confessor's reign, sixteen freemen, Lefstan, another freeman, and Alric and Ulwin, were the possessors of the lands of this parish ; which, at the time of the survey, belonged to Odo, bishop of Bayeux, and Suene, of Essex ; whose under-tenants were, Tuold, and the son of Tuold : and Sasselin held the part which had belonged to Alric and Ulwin. These lands were afterwards divided into three manors.

Hassing-
broke Ma-
nor.

The chief manor takes the name of the brook near which the mansion is situated, about three quarters of a mile north from the church ; it is a stately edifice, built by Cuthbert Featherston, esq. in the reign of James the first. After Tuold and his son, William de Montchensy succeeded to this estate in 1255. Joan, his sister, was married to William de Valence, earl of Pembroke, and left a son named William, who died without issue ; and a daughter, Dionysia, wife of Hugh de Vere, second son of Robert, fifth earl of Oxford ; and he and the lady dying without issue, in 1313, her estates descended to her next heir, Adomare de Valence, earl of Pembroke, who also died without issue, leaving his lady, who died in 1376, having enjoyed this estate during her widowhood of fifty-three years. Isabel, one of her husband's sisters, was married to John de Hastings, lord Bergavenny ; and Elizabeth, another sister, to Gilbert Talbot ; and their posterity inherited, successively, this estate, till it became wholly the property of the Talbots. Afterwards, it descended to Reginald de Grey, of Ruthlyn, son of Reginald, son of Elizabeth, daughter of John de Hastings ; and Isabel, sister of Adomar de Valence. Richard Rede, and Alice, his widow, had this estate till the year 1434 : and in 1457 William Wittenhale, citizen and alderman of London, succeeded to it ; after whom it was in the possession of Roger Ross, the king's tailor ; and both these held it of the king, in capite, by the service of one silver needle. George Wetenhall, esq. sold it, in 1554, to Richard Champion, of Godalmine, in Surrey, citizen and draper ; sheriff of London in 1530 ; in 1565, lord mayor, and knighted in the same year. After the year 1618, the Fetherston family had this possession, which they retained for more than a century.* James Scratton, esq. of Aldersbrook, is now lord of this manor.

* The ancestor of this family was Cuthbert Fetherston, sprung from the Fetherstons of Hetherye-Cleugh, in the parish of Stanhope, in the diocese of Durham ; they were of great antiquity in the north of England. Cuthbert was thirty-five years usher and cryer to the king in the king's court, whenever his majesty was in England. He built Hassingbrook Hall, where his effigies used to be seen in the habit

This estate belonged to John de Newenton, in 1342; and, in 1465, was conveyed by Richard Walch and Richard Pigge, to William Henifey, of London: and it belonged, in 1607, to Reginald Hallingworth, esq., and afterwards became the property of the Fetherstone family.

C H A P.
XVI.

Calbourne,
or Canvers.

Abbot's Hall, the manor house, is a mile north-east from the church. The estate consists of the lands which belonged to Alric and Ulwin, and afterwards to Sasselin, named Stantmere, and Winthelle. William de Septem Molis, or Semeles, gave it to Waltham Abbey, with the advowson of a chapel here; but the grant in the Chartulary is without date. After the dissolution in 1543, it was granted by Henry the eighth to Walter Farr, alias Gillingham; and Edward the sixth made a grant of it to Robert Curson and his heirs; but Walter Farr retained possession till his decease, as did also some of his heirs, to whom he had secured it by licence. This estate afterwards belonged to Thomas Aleyn, D.D. rector of this parish, who died in 1677: and it was conveyed in marriage, with his granddaughter, to William Ashby, esq., of Breakspear, in Harefield, in Middlesex. Afterwards, it became the property of the rev. Thomas Aleyn, vicar of Cookham, in Berkshire; whose trustees sold it, in 1771, to sir Matthew Fetherstonhaugh. Now belongs to James Scrattou, esq.

Abbot's
Manor.

The church is pleasantly situated on rising ground, on a green where several ways meet. It has a nave, north and south aisles, and chancel: the tower of this church is on the north side. St. Margaret is the patron saint.*

Church.

There was formerly a chapel near, or joined to the church: it was for a chantry, and granted to Thomas Golding.

of his office, as large as life. Having lived forty years with his wife Katharine, he died in 1615, aged 78, and she in 1622, aged 95; they left three sons, of whom Henry had by his second wife Katharine, daughter of Michael Heneage, esq., his son and heir Heneage, born in 1628, who, for his attachment to the royal cause during the civil wars, was created a baronet in 1660, being styled of Blakesware in Hertfordshire, which he purchased, and afterwards sold to sir Thomas Leventhorp. In 1666, he was sheriff of Essex, and died in 1711. Sir Henry Fetherston was his heir, who dying without issue in 1746, in the ninety-second year of his age, bequeathed his very large possessions to Matthew Fetherstonhaugh, esq. of the same ancestry, of Fetherston Haugh, in Northumberland, created a baronet in 1747. Arms of Fetherston: Gules, on a chevron between three ostrich's feathers, argent, a pellet.

* In the windows of this church, there were formerly the coats of arms of the families of Valence, Montchensy, Vere, Hastings, Lucy, Le Power, Mandeville, Fitz-Warren, Tany, Ardell, Gernon, Burnham, and Brockhole.

There are among the inscriptions memorials of the following persons: Richard Champion, esq. nephew and heir to sir Richard Champion; he died in 1599. Heneage Fetherston, who died 23d of October, 1711, in the eighty-fourth year of his age; and of dame Mary his wife, who died 12th of January, 1710, aged seventy-seven; also of Thomas Fetherston, esq. third son of sir Heneage, who died in 1723. Dame Katharine Bertie, widow of the hon. Captain Bertie, of Springfield, eldest sister of sir Henry Fetherston: she died 8th of February, 1736.

Inscrip-
tions.

A tenement and orchard in Fobbing belongs to the poor of this parish; and from Earl's Hope Marsh, in the manor of Calbourne, twenty shillings are received for the church, and twenty shillings for the poor. There are also some other charities.

Charities.

BOOK II. The population of this parish, in 1821, was three hundred and one; and in 1831, three hundred and thirty.

CORRINGHAM.

Corring-
ham.

This parish extends eastward from Stanford-le-Hope, and southward to the Thames: it belonged to Sigar, a freeman, in the time of Edward the Confessor; and at the survey, to the bishop of London, whose under-tenant was William. Odo, bishop of Bayeux, had taken away from it half a hide; which he is supposed to have joined to his manor of Hassingbroke, in Stanford. Afterwards, these lands were divided into three manors.

Corring-
ham Hall.

The mansion of the chief manor is near the church, and commands a fine prospect over the Thames into Kent. The family of Baud are the first recorded possessors of this estate under the bishop of London.* Though the names of Baud appear as patrons of the rectory till 1599, yet the manor seems, in the mean time, to have been in other hands. It belonged to George Blaverhasset, esq., in 1540; to John Birde, in 1555; to John Brewode, esq., in 1559; and to sir Henry Anderson, who died in 1605, in possession of this manor, with the advowson of the church; Richard, his son, was his heir. In 1637 it belonged to sir Edward Spencer, knt., and soon afterwards was conveyed to the family of Biddulph, of Ledbury in Herefordshire. It now belongs to Richard Wingfield, esq.

The mansion of this manor is a quarter of a mile from the church; it was rebuilt some time in the last century.

Old Hall.

In 1470, Richard Welles enjoyed this estate, in right of his wife Agnes; and it belonged to Thomas Fisher in 1508. In 1553, it was conveyed from William Scot to Thomas Doera, or Douvray, who, with his wife Mildred, in 1554, passed the same, by fine, to Thomas Crawley, who held a court here in 1573. In 1607, it

* The first of this surname on record, is Simon de Baud, a valiant knight, who, under the banner of the cross, died in the Holy Land, in 1174: after whom succeeded the renowned sir Nicholas de Baud, who fought against the Saracens in Spain, and died in Galicia, in 1189. Sir Walter, supposed his son, dwelt at Corringham, and died there in 1216; whose son and heir, sir William, was succeeded, on his decease in 1270, by his son, sir Walter, to whom king Henry the third granted free warren in his lands in Hadham, which his father had purchased: he was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1307, and died in 1310. Sir John de Baud attended king Edward the third in his expedition into Gascony, in 1346, and died there. Sir William de Baud was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1372, and died at his manor-house of Hadham, in 1375, being the first of the family who had their residence there. His successors were—Walter, who died in 1420; Thomas, his son, in 1449; succeeded by his son Ralph, who died in 1483, leaving Thomas, his son and heir, afterwards knighted; he presented to this living in 1502 and 1506. John Band, esq. died at Corringham in 1550; and another of the same name presented to this living in 1558, 1563, and 1599. Apparently the last of the family here obtained the grant of a fair, and market, and free warren. Arms of Baud: originally gules, three eagles' claws, or; afterwards gules, three chevronels, argent. Crest: a Black Moor's head, couped at the shoulders, proper, with a pair of dragons.

belonged to Francis Crawley; afterwards, it belonged to William Moxon, secretary to sir William Dawes, bart., archbishop of York. CHAP
XVI.

This manor-house is by the road-side leading from Corringham to Stanford-le-Hope. The estate was holden of Richard Welles, by sir Thomas Tyrell, who died in 1476; which sir Robert Tyrell, at the time of his decease in 1508, also held of Thomas Fisher. It afterwards belonged to George Peale and his descendants; afterwards it passed as a jointure to the family of the Olands, of which the co-heiresses sold it, in 1771, to John Judd, esq. Coggars.

The church is on a green, and is dedicated to the Virgin Mary; it has a nave, north aisle, and chancel. The tower is a large low building, with a shingled spire. Church.

A chantry was founded on the north side of the chancel, by William le Baud, in the year 1328, the endowment of which was one messuage, one hundred acres of arable, and thirty shillings rent, in Corringham, Fobbing, Stansted, or Stanford, Estlee, and Westlee, holden of the bishop of London, by the service of bringing to the high altar of the church of St. Paul's, London, one buck and one doe yearly.* Chantry.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and thirty-five, and in 1831, to two hundred and thirty-four.

FOBBING.

Fobbing, in Domesday, Phobinge, lies north-east from Corringham, having the Thames on the south, into which a bay or creek opens, named, at the entrance, Hole Haven. The parish is four miles from north to south; and, from east to west, a mile and a half where widest. The village is on a high hill, two miles from the Thames, yet the ague is very prevalent, owing to the extensive marsh grounds, called the Flatts. The village consists chiefly of small rural dwellings, forming one street, Fobbing

* They were offered at the high altar of St. Paul's cathedral, the doe on the 25th of January, the day of the conversion of St. Paul; and the buck, June the 29th, the day of the commemoration of St. Paul. The buck and doe were brought on these days, by one or more of the servants of the family, at the hour of procession, passing through the midst of it to the high altar, with the offering; after which they received of the dean and chapter 12d. for the buck, but nothing when the doe was brought. The offering being brought to the steps of the altar, the dean and chapter, apparelled in copes and proper vestments, with garlands of roses on their heads, sent the body of the buck to be baked, and had the head and horns fixed on a pole, borne before the cross in their procession round the church, till they issued out at the west door, where the keeper that brought, blew the death of the buck; and then the horns that were about the city answered him in like manner, for which they had each fourpence in money, and their dinner; and the keeper, during his stay, meat, drink, and lodging, and five shillings in money at his going away; together with a loaf of bread, on which was impressed a figure of St. Paul. This ceremony continued till the time of queen Elizabeth. Dugdale's Hist. of St. Paul's, p. 17, &c. Camden's Britannia, in Middlesex. Stow's Survey, edit. 1720; vol. i. b. 3. pp. 164, 165.

BOOK II. extending north and south, distant from Billericay seven, and from London twenty-eight, miles.*

A thane, named Bricmar, had this estate in the time of Edward the Confessor, and it formed one of the numerous lordships given to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, after the Conquest. Turolde had thirty acres from it, to add to Odo's fee, and Ingleric had made a considerable addition to it. It was divided into two manors.

Fobbing
Hall.

The mansion of the capital manor is near the church. From the most ancient account, after Domesday, it appears that Thomas Camvill held this estate of the honour of Boulogne, and had to pay out of it twenty pounds to the monks of St. Winer; and afterwards, by the king's command, to Eustace the monk; and in 1204, a fine passed between Richard the monk, and William the tenant, to authorize this payment. In 1279, the Camvill family are understood to have made over their right here, to king Edward the first. It was afterwards in the noble family of Bohun; and, by marriage, came to the earls of Stafford; and Henry, duke of Buckingham, son of Edmund, earl of Stafford, being instrumental in setting king Richard the third on the throne, and endeavouring to pull him down again, lost his head, and had his estates confiscated. They were afterwards restored to Edward, eldest son of Henry, duke of Buckingham, who enjoyed them till 1521, when he was beheaded, through the artifices of Cardinal Wolsey, and this, with his other estates, forfeited. In 1522, this manor, with the advowson of the church, was granted to sir Thomas Bullen, and his heirs male. He was afterwards created earl of Wiltshire and Ormond; his son George being beheaded, in 1537, this estate was given to the lady Mary, afterwards queen, from whom it passed to queen Elizabeth. In 1559 it belonged to George Tyrell, esq., and, in the reign of king Charles the first, the manor and demesne lands were separated, and the manor was purchased by sir George Whitmore, knt. alderman of London, who, in 1682, sold it to sir Thomas Dewall, sen., whose son married Lydia Katharine Van Hattem, by whom he had two sons, who died in infancy. She was remarried to Henry, duke of Chandos, and had this estate included in her marriage settlement; it afterwards belonged to sir John Hattem. The demesne lands belonged successively to John Wood, to — Lawson, and to John Gosse, who sold them to Henry Saunders, who farmed the hall. The estate was afterwards purchased by Mr. Robert Johnson, of Low Leyton, who died in 1749.

Hawkes-
bury.

Originally, the manor of Hawkesbury belonged to Barking abbey; and, after the dissolution, was granted to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's.

Church.

The church is dedicated to St. Michael, and has a nave, south aisle, and chancel. Being on an eminence, with a tower of unusual height, it forms a conspicuous object at a great distance, and is clearly visible from the Kentish hills. It has a peal of five

* Jack Cade's rebellion began in the "village of Fobbing, where the mob broke into a priory, and drank up three tuns of wine, and devoured all the victuals." *Stow's Annals*.

bells, which enliven the villagers with their harmony; and, in the summer months, the scenery of this vicinity is correctly described in the following lines of the poet Cowper :

C H A P.
XVI.

"Here Thames, slow gliding through a level plain
Of spacious meads, with cattle sprinkled o'er,
Conducts the eye along its sinuous course,
Delighted."

The rectory was appendant to the manor of Fobbing Hall till the attainder of Edward, duke of Buckingham, when it reverted to the crown, where it has remained to the present time.

In this parish, in 1821, there were four hundred and seven inhabitants; and, in 1831, three hundred and ninety-one.

FANGE, OR VANGE.

From Fobbing, and a creek which opens out from the Thames, this parish extends northward: it is two miles and a half from west to south, and two from east to west. The name, in records, Fange, Fange at Noke, Fanges, Fenge, Funge, Wyinge, and, in Domesday, Phenge; distant from Brentwood twelve, and from London thirty miles.*

Fange, or
Vange.

In the time of the Saxons three freemen held these lands, and, at the survey, what had belonged to two of these had been given to bishop Odo, whose under-tenant was Tuold's son; and the other portion was in the possession of Ralph Peverel, and his under-tenant Serlo; but the whole was, at an early period, united into one manor.

The manor-house is on a pleasant hill, half a mile north from the church. The estate for many years went along with Hassingbroke, in Stamford-le-hope, passing, as that manor did, to the families of Montchensy, Vere, de Valence earl of Pembroke, Rede, and Wettenhale, who successively had possession from 1280 to 1577, in which year it was sold, by Thomas, son of George Wettenhale, to Thomas Newman, gent. of Quendon, who dying, in 1585, left Anne, his only daughter, his heiress: yet William Tanfield, esq. is mentioned, in records, as lord of the manor of Fange at Noke in 1565 and 1572. In 1606, John Baker died possessed of this estate, in which he was succeeded by his son Richard. It belonged to Charles Tooker, who died in 1625, whose son Robert presented to the living of this church in 1639, as did Christiana Tooker in 1668 and 1669. Paul Viscount Baining had this manor, and, compounded with the crown for disafforesting it; he had a tenement belonging to it, and lands amounting to two hundred and eighty acres, rented at one hundred pounds a year. This estate was afterwards parcelled out to various purchasers.

Fange
Hall.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a small building, with a nave and chancel of one pace. Church.

* Lands in Canvey Island and Bowers marsh belong to this parish.

BOOK II. In 1821 this parish contained one hundred and twenty-four, and, in 1831, one hundred and sixty-five inhabitants.

LANGDON, OR LAINDON; VULGARLY, LANGDON HILLS.*

Langdon. The Saxon *Lang dun*, i. e. Long hill, is, with propriety, applicable to the two parishes on high ground, north of Fange, Corringham, and of Horndon-on-the-hill; of these this is the most southerly. Distant from Brentwood nine miles, and twenty-two from London.

In the time of Edward the Confessor, Alric, a thane, had this estate, which, after the Conquest, was in possession of Suene of Essex, whose under-tenant was named Walter. On the disgrace and forfeiture of Henry de Essex, Suene's grandson, the estate passed to the crown.

The hill on which this parish is situated extends nearly a mile from north to south, and about the same from east to west; and the most extensive view in Essex is from the brow of this eminence, which is believed to be, also, the finest prospect in England. From the north, the ascent of this hill is gradual, and almost imperceptible; but from the south, south-east, and south-west, it rises abruptly, and the traveller is astonished to behold a scene so beautiful, extending toward London more than twenty, and from east to west including an extent of nearly forty miles.†

**Manor of
Langdon.**

The mansion of the capital manor is on the side of the hill near the church. After Suene's grandson, a family surnamed de Langedon had this estate; yet the knightly family of Sutton were lords paramount. In 1382, John de Langedon, having died without issue, John Ewell, the king's escheator, seized this manor into the king's hands, which shews the time when that family became extinct here. Since this parish has been united with West Lee, what was held here from the church of St. Paul is reckoned in that manor.

* The word "hills" has been added ignorantly by those who did not know that *don* has the same meaning. The more appropriate distinction of this parish is "Langdon with the church of Westley." The name common to either of these parishes, is in records, Laingdon, Laindon, Laundon, and in Domesday, Langeduna.

† Mr. Young, in his "Southern Tour," addresses the following animated description to his correspondent: "On the summit of a vast hill, one of the most astonishing prospects to be beheld, breaks out almost at once upon one of the dark lanes. Such a prodigious valley, every where painted with the finest verdure, and intersected with numberless hedges and woods, appears beneath you, that it is past description; the Thames winding through it, full of ships, and bounded by the hills of Kent. Nothing can exceed it, unless that which Hannibal exhibited to his disconsolate troops, when he bade them behold the glory of the Italian plains! If ever a turnpike road should lead through this country, I beg you will go and view this enchanting scene, though a journey of forty miles be necessary for it. I never beheld any thing equal to it in the West of England—that region of landscapes!" Since the writing of this, a road has been made from Chelmsford toward Gravesend, passing by this hill; it was twenty-one years in a turnpike trust, but is now free.



The mansion of this manor is on higher ground than the other, and lies southward from the church; it joins to Malgraves in Horndon, and has usually been holden with that estate. It was in possession of the Malgrave family, and afterwards of the Tyrells. Edward Archer, esq. had this estate, as well as Malgraves; afterwards it passed to Thomas Andrews, esq. whose daughter Anne was married to Thomas Cotton, esq. and their only daughter and heiress, Frances, conveyed it in marriage to Dingley Askham, esq. one of the co-heirs of sir Robert Cotton, of Great Conington, Huntingdonshire; their daughter and co-heiress brought it to her husband, sir Thomas Hatton, bart. the present owner of Long Stanton, Cambridge-shire. Sir Thomas Hatton had two sons, one of whom died abroad, and the other from a fall out of his carriage, and Laindon descended to the two sisters, co-heiresses of sir Thomas Dingley Hatton, bart. of whom Mrs. S. Hatton is owner of the manor of Laindon.

CHAP.
XVI.Gold-
smiths.

West-Lee, or Ley,* formerly a distinct parish, about a mile from Langdon, toward Vange, was united to this parish in 1432, and the inhabitants have since that time resorted to this church, their own having been destroyed, and the place where it stood unknown. It belonged to Edeva before the Conquest, and, at the survey, to the canons of St. Paul's church in London, who have retained possession to the present time.

West Lee.

The manor-house is on the side of a hill, nearly a mile from the church. In 1313 king Edward the second granted to this manor the immunity "that no king's purveyor should take any corn within its precincts."†

Westley
Hall.

The church is on the western side of the hill; it is dedicated to All Saints; the nave and chancel of one pace; the chancel having a north chapel.

Church.

Bileigh abbey had the patronage of the rectory of Langdon till 1432, when, on the union of the two churches, the abbey reserved to themselves two turns, and the third was appropriated to St. Paul's, but, since the dissolution, it has wholly belonged to that church.

In 1821 the number of inhabitants in this parish amounted to two hundred and five, and, in 1831, to two hundred and twenty-four.

* West-ley, Saxon, west pastures.

† An estate in this parish was settled by Thomas White, D.D. as an endowment of the professorship of moral philosophy, founded by him at Oxford in 1621; and also to be given out of the same farms to five scholars, or exhibitioners of Magdalen Hall, Oxford, eight pounds a year each; and four pounds a year to the principal of that hall. This munificent patron of learning was the founder of Sion College, in London; he was born in the city of Bristol, and died in 1623; he published numerous sermons, among which were—Two Sermons at Paules, in the time of the Plague. London, 1577, 8vo. A Godly Sermon, preached the xxi day of June, 1586, at Penshurst, in Kent, at the buriall of the late right honourable sir Henrie Sidney. London, 1586, 8vo.

BOOK II.

LAINDON WITH BASILDON.

Laindon
with Basildon.

From its clayey soil this parish has been named Laindon Clay; it extends northward from the last described parish.* The village distant from Brentwood eight, and from London twenty-four miles.

Manor of
Langdon.

Before the Conquest, this lordship belonged to a female named Alfered, and, at the survey, had been taken from her, and given to the bishop of London, whose successors have retained possession to the present time. In 1291, it is stated in the records, that the bishop had enclosed his wood in Leyndon, called the Fryth, with the demesne lands adjacent, and had made a park within the bounds of the forest of Essex: this Frith was the manor-house where the courts are kept.

Gobions.

The manor-house of Gobions is about a mile west from the church, near Dunton. This estate was holden, by knight's service, by Thomas Gobion, junior, in 1334, succeeded by John Gobion, in 1396, whose only daughter and heiress was first married to John Aspoll, and afterwards to John Symond, whose daughter, Joane Symond, conveyed it in marriage to William Gaynesford; and his son Richard died in possession of it, in 1484, leaving his brother John his heir.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is on rising ground, and has a nave, south aisle, and chancel, with a wooden steeple and spire.

Chantry.

A chantry was founded here, and largely endowed, in 1329, by Thomas Berdfield, with a chaplain, to celebrate mass for his soul for ever at the altar of the Virgin Mary and St. Thomas the Martyr.†

Basildon.

Basildon was made a chapelry to Laindon, at an early unknown period.‡ It is a separate parish, and contains three manors.

Barstable
Manor.

The mansion of this manor was half-a-mile from the church, or chapel, in a place where, according to a traditionary account, there formerly was a town. This is rendered probable by the fact of foundations of houses having been ploughed up in the town field, which is near the church: considerable quantities of human bones have also been dug up in the garden belonging to the parsonage. If it be true that the name of the hundred has been derived from this place, it must have been formerly of more

* The flat marsh lands, extending from Laindon to Goldhanger, are of a superior description, chiefly arable. The average annual produce per acre at Langdon Clay, is, wheat twenty-four, and barley thirty-six bushels.

Inscriptions.

† There are some ancient gravestones in this church, with several figures of persons in religious habits, but the inscriptions have been destroyed.

Charity.

In 1617, John Puckle gave all his copyhold lands to support a schoolmaster to teach a competent number of poor children of Basildon and Laindon. In 1703, this charity having laid dormant many years, was recovered by a commission from parliament.

‡ There was formerly a fair here on the fourteenth of September, but it seems to have been discontinued some time ago.

importance than at present; but these assumptions are not authorized by any certain evidence. The record of Domesday informs us, that this estate was taken from a Saxon freeman, and had been given to Odo, bishop of Baieux: there is no other account of its owners till the reign of king Edward the third, when it was generally holden, with the hundred, of the king. It was holden by Humphrey Waldene under Edmund of Woodstock, earl of Kent, who was beheaded in 1330. From 1399 to 1419 it belonged to the Walden family, from which it passed, by marriage of female heirs, to John Barle, esq. junior, and to Henry Langley, esq. whose only daughter, Katherine, was married to John Marshall; she died in 1517, and he in 1520, leaving two daughters, co-heiresses:—Eleanor, wife of Henry Cutt, son of sir John Cutt, of Thacksted; and Mary, wife of John, son of Richard Cutt. After the Cutt family, it belonged to — Coleman, esq. of Istleworth, from whom it was conveyed to Charles Brown, esq. It now belongs to Mrs. Slater.

An estate here, named Little Barstable, is mentioned as a manor in this parish, which belonged to William Sandell in 1562, who also held Bacon's and Longland, alias Waldens.

The manor, and the adjoining estate of Battlewick, were part of the possessions of Suene, of Essex; the first having, previous to the Conquest, belonged to Lefstan, and the other to Goda, a freeman. The mansion of Botelers is near the church on the south. In the reign of king Henry the third, it belonged to Wido de Bertlesdon; afterwards to Adam de Bertliden, succeeded by his son and heir William, in 1274. In 1350 to 1358 it was holden under John de Vere, earl of Oxford; and on that earl's death, in 1370, passed to the Cornwall family, of whom John Cornwall, or Cornwallis, died, holding it of the bishop of London, in 1536; whose descendant, sir Charles Cornwallis, sold it to sir Robert Wroth, who died in 1606; and his son and heir, sir Robert, sold it to Henry Atkins, M.D. from whom it was conveyed to Martin Bowes, esq. of St. Edmond's Bury, in Suffolk, whose three daughters were his co-heiresses, one of whom, married to Philip Broke, esq. conveyed to him this estate. It now belongs to Golden N. Prentice, esq.

Belesden,
or Botel-
ers.

The mansion of this manor is near the church, and, in records, is sometimes named Battlesdon, but there is some confusion in the accounts. From the feodary of the earls of Oxford, it appears to have been in possession of that noble family from the time of John de Vere, who died in 1421 to John de Vere, the thirteenth earl, who died in 1512.

Battles-
wick.

This estate, which is extra-parochial, is a mile from Laindon church: the mansion is now a farm-house, situated on rising ground. It is seldom mentioned in records. It was in the possession of sir Brian Tuke, who died in 1545: in 1591 it was granted by queen Elizabeth to Henry Best and John Wells; and, in 1618, John, lord Petre, as also John Petre, esq. in 1623, died in possession of it,

Liberty of
Lee Cha-
pel.

BOOK II. succeeded by William Petre, esq. of New House in Writtle. It now belongs to Lord Gambier.

There was anciently a chapel here, the foundations of which are yet visible: it was either built for a chantry, or there was one founded in it afterwards; and the certificate of chantries, in the time of Edward the sixth, informs us that "lands and tenements were here put in feoffment by divers persons to the maintenance of a priest, the said priest to sing mass in a certain chaple, called East Lea chaple, in Laindon, distant from the parish church a mile and more. The yerely value of the same doth amount to the sum of 4l." This endowment was holden of the king as of the manor of East Greenwich, by fealty only, in free socage.*

Basildon
Chapel.

This is a chapel of ease to the mother church, from which it is two miles distant; it is on ground rising up from the valley, which lies between them, and in which the parsonage house is situated. Basildon chapel is a good building, with a nave and chancel, an embattled tower, and a spire.

In 1821 the population of Laindon amounted to four hundred and two; Basildon to one hundred and forty-two: in 1831 Laindon contained four hundred and twelve; Basildon one hundred and twenty-four inhabitants.

NEWENDEN, OR NEVENDEN.

Newen-
den, or
Nevenden.

This parish is small, and situated in a valley, as the last syllable of its name, which is Saxon, seems to indicate. The name, in Domesday, is written Neutenden, and Nezenden. Distant from Billericay five, and from London twenty-seven miles.

Before the Conquest, these lands belonged to Alward Dore, Tovi, a freeman, and Alwin; and, at the survey, had been granted to Roger Mareschall, Haghebern, and another proprietor. There are two manors.

Bromford
Hall.

The chief manor of Newenden is also named Little Bromfords, and the mansion is a capital building near the church. It is first mentioned in records by this name in 1419, when it seems to have been divided, in order to settle a part of it on the hospital of St. Mary without Bishopsgate, which was retained till the dissolution. In 1442, sir Lodowick John died, holding this estate, with the advowson of the church, of Humphrey Stafford, earl of Stafford. Henry Fitz-Lewis, esq. the son of Sir Lewis, was the next possessor, who died, holding it, in 1480, and left his daughter Mary, wife of Anthony Wideville, lord Rivers, his heiress. In 1522, William Fitz-Lewis, and Anne his wife, conveyed this estate to William Berdford; and it passed, in 1537, from Ralph Symonds and Elizabeth his wife to sir John Mordant; and from the sheriffs' accounts it appears that, in 1607, John, lord

* This estate is extra-parochial, and pays no dues to any parish, but is in the jurisdiction of the constable of Laindon, and is charged for taxes in the assessments upon that parish.

Mordant, had this possession, which, in 1610, belonged to Richard Robotham, gent. succeeded by Thomas Blackmore, esq. whose descendants appear to have retained possession a considerable time. Sometime after the year 1770, it belonged to Joshua Blackmore, esq. and was afterwards purchased by Mrs. Ann Bavin, of Downham. This estate is now the property of George Eachus, esq. of Saffron Walden.

CHAP.
XVI.

This manor is what was taken from Bromfords and given to the hospital. In 1546 it was granted by Henry the eighth to the mayor and commonalty of the city of London, from whom, in 1563, it was conveyed to sir William Petre, who died possessed of it in 1571, as did also his son John, lord Petre, in 1613, and was succeeded by Thomas Petre, esq. From the presentations to the living, it appears to have been in the families of Wakefield and Hoare from 1662 to 1678. The estate afterwards belonged to Joshua Galliard, of Thavies-inn, and to his son, Pierce Galliard, esq. counsellor at law.

Frerne, or
Fryerne.

The church is a small ancient building, dedicated to St. Peter. The living, a rectory, originally appendant to the manor of Little Bromfords, but, after the year 1574, it was in the gift of the lords of the manor of Frerne, or Great Bromfords.*

Church.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to one hundred and eighty-six, and, in 1831, to one hundred and eighty-one.

WICKFORD.

This parish lies between Newenden and Downham; on the north is bounded by part of the hundred of Chelmsford; and, eastward, extends to the hundred of Rochford.† The village is on low ground, between Rayleigh and Billericay; distant from either of these places about six miles, and from London thirty.

Wickford.

In Edward the Confessor's reign, this parish comprehended four manors, besides four other parcels of land, which belonged to Lefstan, to Bricteda, a freewoman, Godwin, a king's thane, Dot, Godric, Edwin Grut, and seven other freemen. At the survey, Suene, of Essex, Odo, bishop of Bayeux, William, son of Odo, Mainard, Moduin, and Ilbodo, were the landholders here; afterwards a considerable change was made in these estates, and some of them appear to have been added to the neighbouring parishes, so that there are now only two manors.

* The chantry chapel, or hospital, of Milton, in Kent, had its endowment chiefly in this parish, which, in 1524, was granted by Henry the eighth to sir Henry Wyatt; John Dygon, the last master, having died in that year.

Chantry
Lands.

† In the churchyard there are memorial inscriptions for Thomas Blackmore, gent., buried May 22, 1679; also of his two daughters, Elizabeth and Anne.

Inscrip-
tions.

Andrew Pascal, gent., who died in 1613, left ten pounds yearly to the poor of Newenden.

Charity.

† The lands by Ramden and Downham, to Wickford, are strong and heavy; but there is a fruitful loam, from one to two feet deep, in the vale of Wickford, which produces good crops of wheat.

BOOK II.

Wickford
Hall.

This manor is what belonged to Suene, and was subsequently holden of the honour of Rayleigh. After the forfeiture of Suene's grandson, the crown retained this possession till the time of Richard the first, who granted it to Ulric Balistarius, commander of his crossbow-men; and his posterity, by the names of Urric, Urry, and sometimes Orric, retained possession till after the year 1300:* Gilbert Urry, who died in that year, and his son Nicholas, and grandson of the same name, are the last of the family on record as possessors of this estate. It afterwards belonged to John Plantagenet, earl of Kent, who died in 1532; but no other possessors are mentioned till the time of king Henry the eighth, when it belonged to Elizabeth, the widow of sir John Pound, who on her death, in 1511, was succeeded by her son and heir William, who died in 1525, leaving Anthony his son and heir. The next possessors were sir Henry Radcliffe, and Honora his wife, from whom it was conveyed to Arthur Harrys, esq. and he, in 1566, sold it to Christopher Harris, who died in 1571, and was succeeded by his son Edward, followed by sir William Harrys, of Shenfield, in Margareting. Latter possessors of this estate were Edmund Godwin, esq. of Hook's hall, in Surrey; Richard Vaughan, esq. of Shenfield-place; and his son, John Vaughan, esq. who married Ellen, daughter of Nicholas Partridge, esq. by whom he had Richard Partridge, esq. of Shenfield-place; afterwards it belonged to the Luther family.

Stile-
man's.

The other considerable estate in this parish is named Stileman's. The mansion was half a mile westward from the church, on the north side of the river, near Runwell, but it has been long since destroyed. The courts-leet meet here, and choose two constables. There is no account of the ancient owners of this estate. It was given by Mr. Robert Chester to Mr. John Moore, his sister's son, whose son and heir left it by will (if his son died without issue) to Jehu Hall, his sister's son, and it consequently became the property of the Hall family.† This manor now belongs to R. B. de Beauvoir, esq.

Geldables.

There are two geldables‡ here, which bear a third part of the king's taxes: they extend into the neighbouring parishes of Rawreth, Runwell, and South Hanningfield.

Church.

The church is pleasantly situated on rising ground; it has a nave and chancel,

* Richard Orric, at the time of his death, in 1247, had this estate; and his sisters, Isabel and Maud, were his heirs. Maud died unmarried; and Isabel assumed the surname of de Wikeford, as did also her son John, to whom she gave part of her sister's share of the estate, which had descended to her. This family were surnamed Arbelaster, from the French, Arborleste, cross-bow.—*Symonds' Collect.* vol. lii. fol. 505.

† Arms of Hall:—Argent, three talbots' heads erased between nine cross crosslets, sable. Crest: talbot's head.

‡ This word is from the Saxon, and signifies "taxable."

which are of one pace. It was given to the priory of Prittlewell, by Robert de Essex.*

CHAP.
XVI.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and eighty-one inhabitants, and four hundred and two in 1831.

PITSEY.

Two arms of the river Thames form a peninsula, of which the western branch is called Pitsey-creek; from this the parish extends north-eastward.† The name is written Pichesea, Pecheseye, and in Domesday, Piceseia. The village is small and insignificant; distant from Brentwood fourteen miles, and from London twenty-eight.

Pitsey.

Before the Conquest, Ulueva, the wife of Phin, had this estate; who appears to have retained possession till the general survey; but it soon afterwards belonged to Eudo Dapifer, who gave part of it to St. John's abbey, in Colchester; which part is believed to have been what was afterwards Pitsey-hall-manor.

The mansion of Pitsey hall is at the bottom of the hill, near the creek. In 1539 this manor, with the advowson of the church, was granted to Thomas lord Cromwell; on whose attainder in 1540, reverting to the crown, it was appointed for the maintenance of the princess Mary; and afterwards, in 1562, was granted by queen Elizabeth to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk; upon whose execution, in 1572, this estate descended to Philip Howard, earl of Arundel, his eldest son by his first lady, Mary, daughter and heiress of Henry Fitz-Alan, earl of Arundel; from whom it was conveyed, in 1581, to Roger Townshend, esq. and Edward Cook, gent.; from the former of whom it passed to Edward Cook, and Bridget his wife, who held it of the heirs of the duke of Norfolk. In 1618, sir Edward Cooke, knt. held this manor, and in 1630 presented to the living; in 1664 it belonged to Mr. Samuel Moyer, and to his son Samuel, created a baronet in 1701, who died in 1716. His nephew, Benjamin Moyer, esq., was his successor in this estate; which now belongs to Mrs. Moyer.‡

Pitsey
Hall.

In ancient writings, this manor is named Chalverton, Chaluton, Celdon, and Chelvedon hall. The mansion is a large old house, on low ground, between Pitsey-street and Newenden. The first occurrence of the name is in 1224 or 1225, after which it belonged to St. Mary's hospital without Bishopsgate, holden under Robert Fitzwalter, who died in 1328; and, in 1386, Walter Fitzwalter died possessed of it. It was

Chalver-
ton.

* A stone in the chancel bears the effigies of three persons, and below these the representation of what is understood to be their four sons and four daughters, but the inscription is destroyed. There are three shields of arms: the first, said to be for Clavil; * * * * between three boars' heads, couped. Second, quarterly, first and fourth, a fess engrailed. Third, defaced.

Monu-
ment.

† The lands of this parish are strong and heavy, with few variations.

‡ Arms of Moyer. Argent, two chevronels, gules, on each a mullet of six points, or, pierced of the second.

BOOK II.

granted by Henry the eighth to Thomas lord Cromwell, and, returning again to the crown on his attainder, was afterwards appropriated to the maintenance of the princess Mary; and, in 1562, was granted by queen Elizabeth to Thomas, duke of Norfolk; after whose execution, on account of his connexion with the affairs of queen Mary of Scotland, being forfeited, was restored to his son Thomas, lord Howard, created earl of Suffolk in 1603. It afterwards belonged to the family of Prescott, of Mountnessing, and to — Blinco.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Michael, is on an eminence which commands a delightful prospect of wide extent; it has a nave and chancel, with a tower of stone, and a shingled spire.*

This parish, in 1821, contained two hundred and eighty-nine; and, in 1831, two hundred and seventy-six, inhabitants.

BURES, OR BOWERS GIFFORD.

Bures, or
or Bowers
Gifford.

This parish is distinguished from Mount Bures, in Lexden, by affixing to it the name of an ancient owner. The village is near the marshes; with a small, but gradually increasing population: distant from Billericay eight miles, and from London thirty-one.

The lands of this parish, before and after the Conquest, belonged to St. Peter's, of Westminster; Alestan, a freeman; and several others. At the time of the survey, they were in the possession of Piperell, or Peverell; Walter, the deacon; and Grime, the sheriff or bailiff: afterwards, the whole formed only one lordship, in the possession successively of families named Leyborn, Sutton, Bigod, and Gifford; but were again divided, forming two manors.

Bures Giff-
ford Ma-
nor.

In the time of king Henry the second, Bures was holden under Robert de Liburne, by Robert de Sutton, by the sergeancy of scalding the king's hogs: this Robert de Sutton gave all his lands in Sutton and Bures, with other possessions, in frank marriage with his daughter Margaret, to William, a younger son of Roger Bigod, earl of Norfolk. William was succeeded by Hugh Bigod, under whom this estate was holden by the ancient family of Giffard, or Gifford, descended from Walter Giffard, † son of Osbern de Bolebec and his wife Aveline, sister of Gunnora, duchess of Normandy, great grandmother to the Conqueror. In 1253, William Giffard, and Gundred his wife, had the advowson of the church; and, in 1255, William Giffard held this manor by the sergeancy of making the king's lard or bacon, wherever he should be in England. In 1281, the estate was holden by William Giffard, and Robert his son, and Gundred, wife of the said Robert. Of these, the last survivor

* A stone in the chancel bears a Latin inscription, to inform us, that "Here lies Elizabeth, wife of John Parlevant, formerly Elizabeth Raye, who died in 1588."

† Created earl of Buckingham by the Conqueror.—*Dugdale's Baron.*, vol. i. p. 59.

was Gundred, who died in 1300, and left Robert Giffard, her son and heir, who died in 1348, and is the last recorded possessor of the estate of that family: his next heir was William, son of Thomas Brygod; after whom the de Veres, earls of Oxford, were lords paramount here. On the division into two manors, the first mentioned in records is Bower's hall, which was holden by Robert Travers, in 1347, and by John Gerard, from 1349 to 1351; and, from an inspection of the London Register, it appears that a family, named St. Nicholas, presented to the living from the year 1392 to 1463; and, in 1494, Henry Baker presented, in whose descendants the right of presentation continued till the time of James the first; during which period the earls of Oxford presented twice, in 1537 and 1541, by reason of guardianship; the heirs of the Baker family being then under age. In 1569, James Baker died possessed of this estate, whose son Henry was his heir; and it was afterwards conveyed, by female heirship, to the Boughton family, of Warwickshire, in 1641; and, in 1662, sir Edward Boughton, bart., sold Bowers Gifford hall to Edward Lewen, esq., who, in 1681, left it by will to his younger son, Martin Lewen, esq., of Gray's inn, city marshal; who sold it to John Slaughter, of east Smithfield, London; whose son John was his heir. It afterwards belonged to Henry Honychurch, esq.

Bower's
Hall.

The manor of this mansion is a quarter of a mile below the church, in the marshes. This is what remained of the estate of the earls of Oxford, in this parish, after they had granted part of it to under-tenants. It is not mentioned in records by the name of Erlesfe, till 1513. In 1569 it was holden of Alberic de Vere, second son of John, the fifteenth earl, by James Baker, esq., by the service of a clove gillyflower. It was afterwards above a hundred and thirty years the property of the Read family. John Read died possessed of it in 1627; and, in 1747, Henry Read sold it to George Montgomery, esq.

Earls Fee.

The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is of one pace with the chancel: it has a steeple, and shingled spire.

Church.

In 1821, the inhabitants of this parish amounted to two hundred and twenty-one; and to two hundred and thirty-one, in 1831.

BEMFLEET, OR BENFLEET; ANCIENTLY BEAMFLEET.

The district named Bemfleet was not formerly divided into north and south, but was made to constitute only one lordship. In the ninth century it was distinguished as the usual landing-place of the Danish pirates; and in the year 893 the Danish rover Hæsten built a castle or fortifications, in which he used to lay up his plunder, guarded by a large garrison.* But, in 894, king Alfred drove away the garrison, and demolished the castle, and took Hæsten's wife and two sons prisoners, with all the booty,

* It was in the southern part of this district; and is described as a strong place, by Matthew of Westminster, Ad ann. 895.

BOOK II. which was conveyed to London. He also destroyed most of the Danish ships; taking what remained to London and Rochester.*

NORTH BEMFLEET.

North
Bemfleet.

The village of North Bemfleet is pleasantly situated three miles from the Thames; distant from Billericay seven, and from London thirty miles. The lands of this parish belonged to earl Harold; to Aluin, a freeman; and to two others, in the time of the Saxons. At the survey, the greater part had been retained by the Conqueror, and kept for him under the superintendence of Ralph, brother of Ilger; what remained was in two parcels, and the whole was divided into three manors.

North-
Bemfleet
Manor.

The mansion of this manor is near the church, the lands being what belonged to earl Harold. In the reign of king Henry the third, in 1263, Alexander de Bemfleet held one hidate of land here, of the gift of St. Martin-le-Grand; and his brother John was his heir: but, at that time the larger portion of the estate was holden by a family surnamed de Plumberg, of the neighbouring parish of Hockley. The estate was next in the considerable family of Coggeshall, of Paklesham: Ralph de Coggeshall died holding it, in 1305, leaving John de Coggeshall his son and heir: his successor was his son, sir John de Coggeshall, who, on his decease, in 1361, was succeeded by his son Henry, who, dying in 1375, left his son William his heir, whose four daughters were his co-heiresses: of these, Alice, married to sir John Tyrell, of Heron, conveyed to him this estate: their fifth son, William Tyrell, esq. was the next possessor of it at the time of his death, in 1494; and left his son Edward his heir, who died in 1541. Successive proprietors were, William Tyrell, esq. brother and heir of Edward, in 1543; Edmund Tyrell, esq., son of Jasper, younger brother of John, father of William, he died in 1576, leaving Edmund Church, son of his eldest daughter Mary, and his three daughters his co-heirs. Sir Ralph Wiseman, knt., of Rivenhall, who died in 1608, held this estate; which descended to his son, sir Thomas Wiseman; and his son, sir William Wiseman, bart., becoming possessed of it, conveyed it to Edmund Godwin, esq., who, in 1694, sold it to John Wilmer, merchant, of London, a descendant of the Wilmers of Northamptonshire.† It now belongs to Richard Wingfield, esq.

Berdfelds.

This manor is also named Bradviles, Boadvills, and Browfords. The account of it is very imperfect; in 1497 Richard Lee, esq. died, holding this estate; and it belonged to Thomas Wiseman, esq., of North End, in Great Waltham, who died in 1584. In 1615 it was holden by George Pomfret, of sir Henry Appleton, knt. and bart.

Fan Hall

Fan-hall is a mile from the church; in 1768 it belonged to John Russell, esq.,

* Saxon Chron., p. 93, 94.

† Arms of Wilmer. Gules, a chevron vairy, between three eagles.

of North Okenden, but there is no authorized account of former possessors of this estate. CHAP.
XVI.

The church is an ancient structure, with a tower and five bells; it is dedicated to All Saints. Church.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to three hundred and three; and had decreased to three hundred, in 1831.

SOUTH BEMFLEET.

As the name indicates, this lies south from the last-described parish; and is parted from Canvey island by a creek, which, passing by Hadley, is named Hadley Ray.* South
Bemfleet.

The parish is three miles from east to west, and two from north to south.

The village, on the border of the creek, is considerably larger than North Bemfleet; and the creek being navigable for small craft, some business is carried on here, particularly in wood, corn, and calves.† It is distant from Brentwood eighteen miles; and from London thirty-six.

Before the Conquest, part of this parish belonged to the monastery of Barking, but was taken from that appropriation by William the Conqueror, and given to Westminster abbey. Another part, which belonged to Alwin, a freeman, in the reign of the Confessor, was in the possession of Suene at the time of the survey. There are three manors.

The manor of the Abbey, on the dissolution of monasteries, passed to the crown, where it remained till the institution of a dean and prebendaries there, by king Henry the eighth, who made this estate part of their endowment: which, notwithstanding the successive alterations in that church, has been retained to the present time, as it was confirmed to that foundation, with the rectory and advowson of the vicarage, by queen Elizabeth, in 1560. Manor of
the Abbey.

That part of this parish which belonged to Suene, has been divided into the manors of South Bemfleet and Jarvis. South Bemfleet hall is on the north of the church, and Jarvis' hall is a mile distant from it in the same direction; it is on a hill, named North-Mayes, and also Jarvis' hill. After Henry de Essex, the next recorded owner of this estate was William de Woodham, who died in 1280, succeeded by his son Thomas, and his grandson William. The next owner was John de Coggeshall; succeeded by his son sir John de Coggeshall, whose son sir Henry, was his successor in 1360; and his successor, on his decease in 1375, was his son, sir William de Coggeshall, who left four daughters co-heiresses: of these, Alice, the second, was Manors of
South
Bemfleet
and Jar-
vis.

* From the Norman French *Rie*, shore, coast, or bank.

† Average annual produce of arable lands here, wheat twenty, barley thirty bushels per acre. There is a fair on the 24th of August.

BOOK II.

married to sir John Tyrell, of Herons; and their descendant, **Joice**, daughter of sir Robert Tyrell, conveyed this estate in marriage to **Thomas Appleton, esq.**, which sir Roger Appleton, their son, held at the time of his decease, in 1557, and it continued in this family nearly two hundred years, when Elizabeth Appleton, sister of sir Henry, and ultimately heiress of the last sir William,* was married to Richard Vaughan, esq. of Shenfield-place, and conveyed to him this estate: their son, John Vaughan, esq.,[†] was their heir and successor. The manor of South Bemfleet now belongs to John Perry, esq.

Rich-
Marsh.

Rich-marsh, now named Richnesse, was made the endowment of a chantry, founded in the cathedral of St. Paul, in 1239, by Martin de Pateshull,[†] dean of that church; which, after the dissolution, passed from the crown to John Hulson and Bartholomew de Brokesby, and to various possessors. There was also a manor here, called le White hall, and lands and tenements named Poyntantes, which Robert Blossme released to William Trusbit, esq., in 1412.[‡]

Church.

The church is a handsome and stately edifice, on high ground in the street; it is dedicated to St. Mary; with north and south aisles, and chancel; the aisles separated from the nave by massive pillars. The tower is of stone, with a tall wooden spire, and five bells.

In 1821, there were five hundred and fifteen inhabitants in this parish; which had increased to five hundred and thirty-three in 1831.

* Arms of Appleton. Argent, a barr ingrailed, sable, between three apples slipped, gules, leaved and stalked proper.

† Dugdale's Hist. of St. Paul's.

‡ In 1563, sir Henry Appleton, knt., Roger Appleton, M.D., and William Appleton, LL.D., had the following lands disafforested in consideration of five hundred pounds paid to the crown. The manor of Jarvis hall, containing six thousand six hundred and sixty acres; Jarvis hall park, north Moyes park, South Bemfleet park, Jarvis hall demesne lands, Jarvis great woods, Jarvis high woods, Jarvis springs, Thundersley great woods, Hadley great woods, Garren's woods, Goldley springs, Hick hawkes woods, Mawling's woods, Temple woods, Dawes' woods, Dawkins' woods, and so beyond Dawes' heath, Bushey lees great woods, Hartley groves, Church woods, Hovell thick woods, Philips' springs, Philax groves, Acley bottoms, Hope's green, Read's hills; Boyse's, Muller's, Bacon's, north, south, east, and west downs, with divers marshes in Canvey island, containing three thousand eight hundred acres; named Monk's wick, North wick, Father wick, Castle wick, Chaffleet shores wick, Hope's wick, Leighbeck, Scarhouse, Woolspit, Antleah's, Shouldry, Runtisward marsh, Darlet, Lymeyard, Waterside, Newinins, Lubbyns, Great Russels, Little Russels, Scachurch marsh, Hadley marsh, Southwick marsh, West Stanes wick, and the feedings, fishing, water-courses, from Timon's beacon, Wodeham horse, Sea horse, Creten's pool and Creten's reach, Cliff hill, Holly haven, and Bemfleet ray; so all round the whole isle of Candey or Canvey, as far as Hadley ray, &c. Also the manor of south Bemfleet, containing three thousand acres; also of the farm of Leigh park, with the woods and underwoods, containing one hundred and eighty acres, with several other messuages and tenements.

THUNDERSLEY.

This parish is on the eastern extremity of Barstable, where it joins to the hundred of Rochford: it is two miles from north to south, and one and a half from east to west.*

The village is small, on high ground, commanding agreeable prospects over a wide extent of country: distant from Brentwood, seventeen miles; and from London, thirty-three.

In the time of Edward the Confessor, a king's thane, named Godric, held this lordship, which belonged to Suene at the time of the survey, and was afterwards divided into two manors.

The manor-house of Thundersley is half a mile north from the church. The estate passed to the crown on the forfeiture of Henry de Essex, but in the time of Henry the second had been granted to the family of Fitz-Barnard; it belonged to John Fitz-Barnard, who died in 1260, and was succeeded by Robert Fitz-Barnard, who died in 1299. In 1313 it was conveyed by Thomas le Fitz-Barnard to Bartholomew de Baddlesmere, who gave it to king Edward the second, in exchange for the manor of Bourn, in Sussex. In 1329, king Edward the third granted this manor to John le Sturmy, who died in 1343, and was succeeded by his son Robert de Sturmy: sir Donewald Sturmy was his son and heir, and, in 1361, by deed conveyed this estate to king Edward the third; and in 1367 Isolda, his widow, released to the king all her right to the same. This purchase by the crown appears to have been for the purpose of uniting this estate to Rayleigh Castle, at that time belonging to the royal family. In 1390, it was granted by king Richard the second to Edmund, duke of York, fifth son of king Edward the third; on whose decease, in 1401, he was succeeded by his son Edward, who had it during his life; and Philippa, his dowager, held a third part of the estate till her death in 1422. It was afterwards granted, by king Edward the sixth, to William Parr, earl of Essex and marquis of Northampton, who conveyed it to Edward Bury and Kenelm Throckmorton, esq.; and the latter, in 1550, conveyed it to Thomas Gesting. George White, esq., of Hutton, who died in 1584, held the manor of Thundersley of the queen; and it was conveyed by his son Richard to Francis Fitch; and supposed to have belonged to the following persons, who successively presented to the living of the church: Robert Wiseman, esq., in 1619; Robert Smyth, esq., in 1644 and 1646; Thomas Dowling, gent., from 1676 to 1689; and John Dowling, esq., in 1700. In 1720, it was sold by John Ange, esq., of Upton, to Robert Surman, esq., cashier of the South-sea Company; and was purchased of the directors by Edward Turnor, esq., who bequeathed it to his nephew,

* The soil here is strong and wet, and hollow-drained: average annual produce per acre, wheat twenty, barley thirty bushels.

Thunders-
ley.

Thunders-
ley Manor.

BOOK II. Edward Montgomerie, esq., on whose death, in 1747, it descended to his brother, George Montgomerie, esq. It now belongs to Charles Bosanquet, esq.

Busches,
or
Bushes.

The name is supposed to have been from William Busch, whose wife Lettice, who died in 1309, held lands here, supposed to be this manor: and it appears by a charter, that in 1267 William Saundon, the king's cook, held lands here, believed to be this manor, which afterwards belonged to the new hospital of St. Mary without Bishops-gate; and, on the dissolution of monasteries, coming to the crown, was granted to John de Vere, earl of Oxford, in 1545; and was holden by John Warner, who died in 1552: on the death of Henry, his brother and heir, in 1556, it went to Thomas Newdigate, son and heir of Anne Warner; and to Elizabeth Thomas, and Margaret Thomas, daughters of Thomasine Warner. In 1557, it was sold by Robert Kemp and Thomas Newdigate, to Henry Songer and Elizabeth his wife; and they, with Thomas Philips, sold it, in 1558, to Bartholomew Averell; who, dying in 1562, left Mary, wife of sir John Sammes, Grace, and Elizabeth, his daughters and co-heiresses. The estate afterwards belonged to captain Crowder, of Goodman's-fields, London: and now belongs to John Fare, esq. *

Church.

The church is on an eminence, commanding a prospect of wide extent; it has a nave, north and south aisles, and chancel, with a spire: it is dedicated to St. Peter. This ancient building has short round and octagonal piers, with some flowered capitals, and pointed arches. The style is a mixture of Norman and early English.

In 1821, the inhabitants of Thundersley amounted to three hundred and thirteen; those of the hamlet, to two hundred and thirty-three: in 1831, Thundersley, with the hamlet, amounted to five hundred and twenty-six.

CANVEY ISLAND.

Canvey
Island.

This island is separated from Bemfleet and Hadley, by one of the branches of the river Thames by which it is surrounded. Camden supposes it to be that which is mentioned by Ptolemy, and named Κωωνος: it is in length five miles, and in breadth two; and contains three thousand six hundred acres of marsh land, chiefly appropriated to the grazing of cattle and sheep. It is not a parish of itself, but is chiefly connected with Bemfleet, yet also pays taxes and tithes to the parishes of Bures Gifford, Pitsey, Vange, Laindon with Basildon; and to Lee, Prittlewell, and Southchurch, in Rochford hundred. There is a passage across the creek, called Hadleigh Ray, by a causeway leading into it from the main land. There are about fifty houses on the island, and there is a fair on the twenty-fifth of June. It is thirty miles distant from London.

Ancient possessors of lands in this island were Edward Baker, esq. who held here the three marshes of Knightwyke, Southwyke, and Attnash, in the year 1543: in 1569, James Baker, esq. held five hundred acres of Salt-marsh; and, in 1557, sir

Roger Appleton had possessions here, which belonged to his great-grandson, sir Henry Appleton, in 1604; who in 1622, with other proprietors, agreed to give one third of the lands, in fee simple, to Joas Croppenburgh, a Dutchman, in consideration of his securing the island from the overflowing of the tides, and the encroachments of the sea.

A timber chapel was erected here for the Dutch inhabitants, which being decayed, a new one was built, in 1712, by Mr. Edgar, an officer in the victualling office: this also had decayed, when, in 1715, the present building was erected, partly by a contribution of the inhabitants, but chiefly by a benefaction of Daniel Scratton, esq. of Prittlewell. He also gave part of the tithes to trustees, to pay ten pounds a year to the vicar of Prittlewell, and ten pounds a year to the curate, to preach twenty sermons in this chapel.

John Curtis, esq., — Baillie, esq., and Thomas Spitty, esq., are proprietors here.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN BARSTABLE HUNDRED.

R. Rectory.

V. Vicarage.

• † Discharged from payment of first fruits.

Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Basildon, C.	Essex	Rector of Laindon..	1803	Not in charge	Rector of Laindon.
Benfleet, North, R.	S. Trenoweth	1778	£16 0 0	Rev. C. R. Rowlatt.
Benfleet, South, V.	Geo. Swayne, D.D..	1827	†16 5 5	Dn. & Ch. of Westminster.
Bulphan, R.	Thomas Hand	1830	23 0 0	Mr. Bury, &c.
Burghsted, Great, V.	J. Thomas.....	1822	17 6 8	Rev. Ed. Evans.
Burghsted, Little, R.	A. W. Roberts	1820	12 0 0	Bishop of London.
Canvey Island, C.	Wm. Macleod.....	1828	Not in charge	Rector of Laindon.
Chadwell, R.	J. P. Herringham... .	1819	17 13 4	Rev. J. P. Herringham.
Corringham, R.	W. R. Stephenson . .	1818	22 3 4	Rev. W. R. Stephenson.
Doddington, R.	Bridges Harvey	1813	10 3 9	Jarvis Kenrick.
Downham, R.	E. R. Benyon	1827	12 2 8½	R. B. de Beauvoir.
Dunton, R.	J. S. Hand	1798	14 13 4	King's Coll. Camb.
Fobbing, R.	J. H. Randolph	1822	21 0 0	The King.
Horndon, East, R.	H. Powell	1795	10 0 0	Earl of Arran.
Horndon-on-hill, V.	Theophilus Lane ...	1827	†14 6 8	Dn. & Ch. of St. Paul's.
Horndon, West, R.	Thomas Newman... .	1797	14 3 4	Thomas Newman, esq.
Hutton, R.	Richard Black.....	1814	8 0 0	Dn. & Ch. of St. Paul's.
Laingdon, R.	Edward Hodson....	1803	85 6 8	Bishop of London.
Laingdon-hill, R.	R. C. Packman.....	1825	†10 3 9	Dn. & Ch. of St. Paul's.
Mucking, V.	J. W. Vivian, D.D..	1821	10 0 0	Dn. & Ch. of St. Paul's.
Newenden, R.	Vincent Edwards... .	1814	10 13 4	Rev. Vincent Edwards.
Orsett, R.	Exempt..	John Fred. Usco ...	1808	29 6 8	Bishop of London.
Pitsea, R.	Essex	C. Hewitt.....	1798	16 13 4	Mrs. Heathcote, &c.
Ramsd. Bel. R.	Rector of Stock	1786	14 0 0	Rector of Stock.
Ramsd. Crays, R.	Thomas Knox, D.D..	1821	20 0 0	{ Divisees of Rev. Dr. Knox.
Shenfield, R.	C. J. Yorke.....	1820	14 18 4	{ Vic. Knox.
Stanford-le-Hope, R.	Wm. Armstrong....	1801	12 9 9½	{ Countess de Grey.
Thundersley, R.	G. Hemming	1830	†23 7 8½	{ Sir H. Featherstonehaugh, bart.
Thurrock, Little, R.	Henry Ward	1786	13 15 0	Rev. G. Hemming.
Tilbury, East, V.	A. P. Postan	1803	†13 6 8½	Rev. T. Schrieber.
Tilbury, West, R.	Edward Linzee	1818	20 0 0	Lord Chancellor.
Wickford, R.	Thomas Hulse	1827	14 0 0	The King.
					R. B. de Beauvoir, esq.

CHAPTER XVII.

HUNDRED OF ROCHFORD.

BOOK II.

Rochford.

THIS hundred extends eastward to the German Ocean; westward to Barstable; southward to the border of the river Thames, and to the sea; and the river Crouch forms its northern boundary: from west to east its length is eighteen miles, and its breadth, from north to south, nine. After the Conquest, it was granted to Suene; on whose forfeiture, returning to the crown, it was granted by king Henry the third to Hubert de Burgh, chief justice of England, who, by that king, was created earl of Kent in 1226: he died in 1243; and his last wife, Margaret, sister of Alexander the second, king of Scotland, had this hundred at the time of her decease, in 1260: dying without heir, John de Burgh, earl of Kent, her husband's son by his first wife, succeeded to the estate; which, in 1274, he conveyed to king Edward the first, with the manors of Rayleigh and Eastwood; and in 1340 it was granted, by Edward the third, to William de Bohun; who dying in 1360, it descended to his son Humphrey, earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton; who, at the time of his death in 1372, leaving only daughters, it returned to the crown: it was granted to Thomas de Staple; and in 1380 to Alberic de Vere, the tenth earl of Oxford: succeeded in 1400 by Edmund de Langley, duke of York, fifth son of king Edward the third: in 1402 his son Edward, duke of York, succeeded to this estate; and he dying in 1415, his widow Philippa, held part of it in dower. It afterwards was in the possession of Richard Plantagenet, duke of York, father of Edward the fourth, and nephew of Edmund de Langley, on whose decease it passed to the crown: and was granted by Edward the sixth to Richard lord Rich, who died in 1566, after whom it remained in his family till 1673. This hundred contains the following twenty-four parishes: Rochford, Rayleigh, Hadleigh, Leigh, Eastwood, Raureth, Hockley, Hawkswell, Sutton, Prittlewell, Southchurch, North Shoebury, South Shoebury, Great Wakering, Little Wakering, Barling, Shopland, Packlesham, Canewdon, Great Stanbridge, Little Stanbridge, Assingdon, South Fambridge, Foulness, and other islands.

ROCHFORD.

This is the most considerable town in the hundred to which it has given its name: it is by a brook or rivulet, named Broomhill, over which there are two small bridges, and which flows into the great creek communicating with the river Crouch. Probably there has formerly been a ford here, from which the latter syllable of the name is derived; the first syllable is of more doubtful origin. Morant is of opinion, that it may be from Rodesford, or Radesford, being on the principal road of the hundred; it is written in Domesday, Rochefort. The houses are mostly irregular, and of mean appearance; the market-house, of timber, near the centre of the town, bears the date of 1707. The market is on Thursday; and the fairs are on Tuesday and Wednesday in Easter week, and on the Wednesday and Thursday after the twenty-ninth of September. Distant from Rayleigh five, and from London thirty-nine miles.*

Rochford

A freeman had the land of this parish at the close of the Saxon æra; and at the time of the survey it belonged to Suene, whose under-tenant was Alured, a Saxon. There are two manors.

The manor-house of Rochford-hall, near the west end of the church, is an ancient and stately building, said to have been the residence of Anne Bullen. It was some time ago in a ruinous condition, but has been completely repaired: it had formerly an extensive park. A family, surnamed de Rochford, had this estate in the time of king Henry the second;† and in 1247 sir Guy de Rochford had the grant of a market and fair here.‡ His descendants retained possession till, on the failure of the heir general,

Rochford
Hall.

* The soil of this and some neighbouring parishes, particularly from Rochford town to the south coast, contains a large proportion of good turnip land, and bears the general character of being as rich a tract of land as is to be found in the county. It is generally a pale, impalpable mould, similar to what is found in Tendring.

† Eustace, the Norman, had three sons: Eustace, Pagan, and William de Say. Eustace married first the heiress of the barony of Haulton, in Cheshire; and, to his second wife, had the heiress of Vesci, baron of Malton and Alnwick, in Northumberland. From Richard Fitz-Eustace, his eldest son, descended the earls of Lincoln, of the surname of Lacy, and lords of Warkworth, in Northumberland, and of Clavering, in Essex. Pagan, the second son, was lord of Ewas, in Wales, in 1136. Guy was father of Pagan, living in 1204, whose sons were Guy and John. John de Rochford, son of Maud, sister to Guy, was his cousin and heir, who died in 1309, and was succeeded by his son and heir, Robert, who held these estates jointly with Isolda, daughter of William Fitzwarin (supposed his wife), in 1324: sir Thomas de Rochford was his son and heir. Arms of the Rochford family: Quarterly, or and gules, a bordure sable bezantée, or.

‡ John de Rochford was summoned, by a *quo warranto*, to appear before the king's justices itinerant at Chelmsford, in 1285, to shew by what right he claimed wreck at sea, tumbrel, emendation of assize of bread and beer, broken, &c. in Rochford, &c. He appeared, and answered as for wreck at sea, that one John de Burgh, senior, granted to Guy de Rochford, his uncle, whose heir he was, all his marshes, with the appertinances (except the collation of tithes which he had in Foulness, &c.), together with all his marshes, as well within the wall as without, to have and hold, with all the apper-

king Edward the third, in 1340, granted this manor to William de Bohun, earl of Northampton, who died in 1360, and was succeeded by his son Humphrey, earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, baron of Brecknock, and high constable of England, who died in 1372: Joane, his widow, daughter of Richard Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, presented to this living in 1395 and 1397. Their daughters and co-heiresses were Eleanor, married to Thomas, of Woodstock, on whose murder her portion of this estate went to the crown; and Mary, who being married to Henry, earl of Derby, her share became incorporated into the Duchy of Lancaster. In 1454, James, fifth earl of Ormond, and in 1449, earl of Wiltshire, for his attachment to the Lancastrian cause, obtained this estate; but was taken prisoner and beheaded, after the battle of Tooton in 1461: John, his brother, the sixth earl of Ormond, was restored in blood, and to some of his estates, but not to this, which remained in the crown till Edward the fourth gave it to his sister Anne, duchess of Exeter, in 1462: afterwards it passed successively to the king's father-in-law, Richard Widville, earl Rivers; after whose tragical death, in 1469, it passed to Thomas Grey, marquis of Dorset, son-in-law to Edward the fourth; then to his brother, sir Richard Grey. On the accession of Henry the seventh, Thomas, earl of Ormond, recovered this estate, which he enjoyed till his decease, in 1515. He was summoned to parliament, in 1495, by the title of sir Thomas Ormond de Rochford; on his death, in 1515, he left his two daughters his co-heiresses: Anne, wife of sir James St. Leger, and Margaret, married to sir William Bullen; and their only son and heir, sir Thomas Bullen, who was made treasurer of the king's household, lord privy seal, K. G., created viscount Rochford, and earl of Wiltshire, and also earl of Ormond. He died in 1538, leaving, by his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, George viscount Rochford, who was beheaded in 1535, falling a sacrifice to king Henry's jealousy; Anne Bullen, second queen of the same brutish tyrant, who was sacrificed to his lust; and Mary, married to William Carey, esq., and afterwards to sir William Stafford: on her death, in 1543, she left, by her first husband, Henry Carey, esq., who succeeded to this and her other estates;* and his descendants retained this manor till it

tenances in waters, sands, or washes, shores, wrecks of the sea, ways, paths, drifts, warrens, and all other liberties to the said marshes appertaining, which grant Edward, now king of England, by his charter confirmed; which charter he then produced. Also, for tumbrel, emendation of assize of bread and beer, broken, &c. he said, king Henry, father of the king that now is, granted, and by his charter confirmed, to the aforesaid Guy de Rochford, and his heirs, one market, at his manor of Rochford, every week, upon Tuesdays, and one fair yearly, to continue three days, Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, in Whitsun-week; and also, to have the aforesaid tumbrel: and the charter of the said king he then produced in court.

* William Carey, esq. by his first wife, Anne, daughter of sir John Paulet, had a son, from whom descended the Carey family of Cockington, in Devonshire. By his second wife, Alice, daughter of sir Baldwin Fulford, he had Thomas, who left two sons, sir John and William. Sir John had issue, sir

was conveyed, by Henry, the first lord Hunsdon, to Richard lord Rich, who resided at Rochford-hall, where he died in 1566. The estate descended to his son Robert, lord Rich, who died in 1580; to Robert, created earl of Warwick in 1618, and to his descendants—Robert, to a second Robert, and to Charles, successive inheritors of that dignity; and on the death of the last of these, in whom the title became extinct, the great estates of the Warwick family being divided among the co-heirs, the manors of Rochford, Hadleigh Castle, Leigh, Prittlewell, Assingdon, Packlesham, and West-hall, were allotted to sir Henry St. John, bart., who had married Mary, niece to Charles, the last earl of Warwick; and was, in 1716, created baron of Battersea, and viscount St. John; his eldest son, Henry, created viscount Bolingbroke, in 1712, sold this estate to sir Richard Child, afterwards earl Tilney. It now belongs to the hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley.

Grested hall is a mile west from the church. Roger Davey, at the time of his decease in 1508, held this estate of the earl of Ormond, as of his manor of Rochford; and in 1556, William Harrys held it of the lord Rich, as of his manor or honour of Rayleigh. Grested.

Doggett, or Doccet, is a reputed manor, and was holden by an ancient family of that name in 1305. Combes is also a reputed manor, which belonged to Mary Carey. Doggets, Combes, Upwicke, and other possessions here, belonged to Robert, earl of Warwick, in 1619. Belongs now to the Hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley. Doggett & Combes.

The singular custom in this parish, of keeping what is called the lawless court, is of uncertain origin; in old authors it is spoke of as belonging to the manor of Rayleigh.*

Edward Carey, father of Henry, created lord viscount Falkland, and made lord deputy of Ireland, whose son was the excellent Lucius Carey, lord viscount Falkland, secretary of state to king Charles the first, and slain at the battle of Newbury, 20th of September, 1643. William, son of William Carey, esq. died in 1528, having married Mary Bullen, by whom he had Henry, and Katharine, married to sir Francis Knolles, K.G. Henry Carey, esq. the son and heir, being first cousin to queen Elizabeth, was knighted by her soon after her accession; in 1558 advanced to the title of baron Hunsdon, and employed in offices of the greatest importance. He married Anne, daughter of sir Thomas Morgan, and had George, John, Edmund, Robert, created earl of Monmouth, and three daughters: Katharine, married to Charles Howard, earl of Nottingham; Philadelphia, married to Thomas, lord Scrope; and Margaret, to sir Edward Hoby, knt.; dying in 1596, he was buried in Westminster abbey.

* The following account of a court, then commonly called the "Lawless court," is printed by Hearne, from the Dodsworth MSS. in the Bodleian Library, vol. 125.

"The mannor of Raylie, in Essex, hath a custome court kept yearely, the Wednesday nexte after Michael's-day.

"The court is kept in the night, and without light, but as the skye gives, att a little hill without the towne called the *King's hill*, where the steward writes only with coades, and not with incke. And many men and mannors of greate worth hold of the same, and do suite unto this strange court, where the steward calls them with as low a voice as possibly he may: giving no notice when he goes to the hill to keepe the same court, and he that attends not is deeply amerced, if the steward will.

BOOK II.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a large ancient building, nearly half a mile from the town, by the hall: it has a nave, north and south aisles, and a chancel, in which there is a north chapel; at the west end, a lofty tower is said to have been erected by lord Rich, but the arms of Boteler induce the belief that the family of Ormond erected it. Probably it was repaired and heightened by lord Rich.*

In 1219 a vicarage was instituted here; but it was soon after made a rectory.

In 1821, this parish contained one thousand three hundred and eighty-two, and in 1831, one thousand two hundred and fifty-six inhabitants.

RALEY, OR RAYLEIGH.

Rayleigh.

The parish of Rayleigh lies north-westward from Rochford; its general situation is on high ground, with a heavy and stiff soil. The name is written in records, Regeneia, Ragheleia, Ragley, Ragleigh, Ralegh, Raylee, Raylegh, Raylil. The village was formerly a market town,† and the head of the barony of Suene; who

“The tytle and entry of the same court is as followeth, viz.:

“Curia de domino rege,
Dicta *sine lege*,
Tenta est ibidem,
Per ejusdem consuetudinem,
Ante ortum solis,
Luceat nisi solus,
Seneschallus solus,
Scribit nisi colis.
Clamat clam pro rege
In curia *sine lege* :

Et qui non cito venerit
Citius panitebit;
Si venerit cum lumine
Errat in regimine.
Et dum sine lumine
Capti sunt in crimine,
Curia sine cura,
Jurata de injuria,
Tenta est die Mercuriæ
prox. post. festum S. Michaelis.”

Weever, who mentions this custom, says, that he was informed that “this servile attendance was imposed at the first, upon certaine tenants of divers mannors hereabouts, for conspiring in this place, at such an unseasonable time, to raise a commotion.” A court is yet held here at midnight; and a pool marks the place where the conspirators assembled.

Inscriptions.

* In the north aisle, a grave-stone bears an inscription in Norman French, of which the following is a translation: “Pray for Anne Snokeshull, daughter of John Filol, of Landmere, who lieth here; God have mercy and compassion on her soul, who died on St. Valentine’s day, in the year of Jesus Christ 1386.”

The following was here some time ago, but has been destroyed: “Of your charite prey for the sowl of Rose Crymwill, wyf of Richard Crymwill, which Rose desesyd 8 Apr. 1421.”—“Here lieth Mary Dilcock, who died 13 Dec. 1514, on whose soul Christ have mercy.” The arms of Bohun appear in the east window.

Charity.

There are six alms-houses on the lower extremity of the town, built by Robert Rich, the first earl of Warwick of that family: they are for five men and one woman. The endowment is sixty pounds per annum, each to have three shillings and sixpence weekly, and a gown at Christmas, price, twenty shillings and eightpence. Two loads of wood to be brought for each of them out of the earl’s woods for ever. The statutes for the government of these houses are the same as for those which Richard, lord Rich, built at Felsted.

† This market was of very ancient institution, for, in 1249, Margaret, countess of Kent, sued Hugh de Vere, earl of Oxford, for setting up a market at Prittlewell, to the prejudice of her market at Rayleigh.

built a castle here, of which some important earth works yet remain: they consist of a mount, with an oval-shaped base, surrounded by a ditch; and this again by a rampart, and by a second ditch, defended by other embankments, particularly on the east side. The summit of the mount is divided; the western part circular, and upwards of one hundred feet high; the other is somewhat of an oval form, and lower. The principal ditch is from thirty-six to fifty feet wide; the interior vallum fifty feet high. In some places the works are much broken, and the ditches partly filled up. In Domesday, there is said to have been "a park here, with six arpenni of vineyard, yielding, in a good season, twenty modii of wine." The village consists of one wide street, of considerable extent; and from the site of the castle, at the upper end of the town, an extensive and interesting prospect is presented over the surrounding country. Besides the ancient church, there is a place of worship here for dissenters, of the denomination of Baptists.

The market, which has been a long time discontinued, was on Saturdays: the fair is yet held on Trinity Monday for cattle. Distant from Brentwood, sixteen miles: and from London, thirty-five.*

In 1163, Henry de Essex, forfeiting his extensive possessions, this lordship was retained by the crown, till it was granted, by king Henry the third, to Hubert de Burgh, lord chief justice, whom he afterwards created earl of Kent. On this nobleman's incurring the king's displeasure, he was deprived of the greater part of his extensive possessions; yet the reversion of this was in his eldest son; and was enjoyed by his countess after his death in 1243; she died in 1260, and was succeeded by John de Burgh, the son, who sometimes bears the title of earl of Kent.† The lordship was afterwards divided into three manors.

In 1340, this manor, the manor of Estwood, the honour of Rayleigh, and hundred of Rochford, were granted by king Edward the third to William de Bohun, earl of Northampton; whose heir, on his decease in 1360, was his son Humphrey, earl of Essex, Hereford, and Northampton, and constable of England: he died in 1372; and leaving only daughters, the estate returned to the crown; and in 1380, king Richard the second granted for life, to Alberic de Vere, the tenth earl of Oxford, the honour, fee, fair, and market of Rayleigh, with the profits of the herbage of Rayleigh park,

Manor of
Rayleigh.

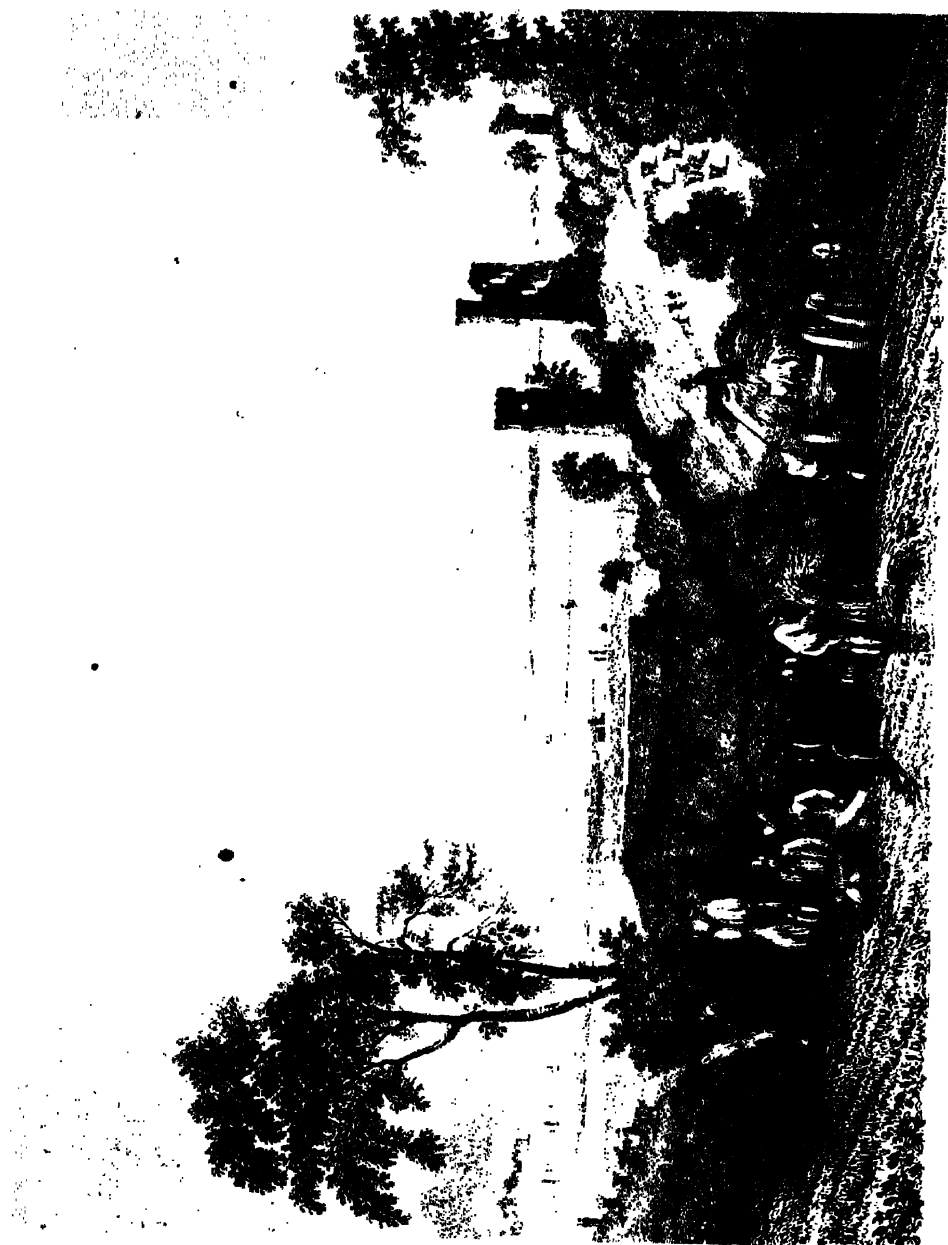
* The soil here is wet and strong, with some variations; some poor and hungry: all the high land wet.

† Hubert de Burgh had five wives: Margaret, daughter of Robert de Arsike, by whom he had John and Hubert. In 1199 he married his second wife, Joane, daughter of William de Vernona, earl of Devonshire. His third wife was Beatrix de Warenn, widow of Dodo Bardolf; she died in 1209. His fourth wife was Isabel, daughter, and one of the heirs of William, earl of Gloucester: she was the repudiated wife of king John, and widow of Geoffrey de Mandeville, earl of Essex. Hubert's fifth wife was Margaret, daughter of William, and sister of Alexander the second, king of Scotland; to this last he was married in 1221.—*Milles' Cat. of Honour*, p. 762; and *MS. Memoirs*.

BOOK II. and the manor of Estwood; and on his death in 1400, the same king had granted the reversion of them to Edmund Plantagenet, or de Langley, duke of York; on whose death, in 1402, he was succeeded by his son Edward, who was slain at the battle of Agincourt, on the 25th of October, 1415: Philippa, his duchess, held a third part of his estates till her death in 1431, when the whole became vested in the crown, where it remained till 1535, when it was granted by Henry the eighth, to Thomas Bullen, earl of Wiltshire and Ormond, and to his son, George Bullen, lord Rochford, for thirty years; but the lord viscount Rochford was beheaded in 1535, and his father, the earl, died in 1538, when this honour again returned to the crown, and in 1553 was granted, by king Edward the sixth, to Richard, lord Rich, who, being subservient to the views and purposes of queen Mary, retained this estate during her reign; but, on the accession of Elizabeth, that queen granted it to her cousin, Henry Carey, lord Hunsdon, who died in 1596; and was succeeded by his son, sir George Carey, on whose death, in 1603, he left only one daughter, and was consequently succeeded by his next brother, John, lord Hunsdon; whose son and heir, Henry, lord Hunsdon, in 1621 conveyed it to sir Thomas Wroth and others, in trust, for Robert Rich, earl of Warwick, who died in 1658, leaving Robert his eldest son, third earl of Warwick, his heir; who, dying in 1659, without issue male,* was succeeded in title and estates by Charles, his next brother; and he dying without issue, in 1673, and his lady dying in 1678, the extensive possessions of the Rich family were divided among the six co-heirs, or their heirs; and this honour and manor, &c. became the share of Daniel, earl of Nottingham, who sold them to Robert Bristow, esq., whose son, Robert Ward, was alderman of London, and, in 1719, lord mayor; Robert Bristow, esq., his son, was his successor. It now belongs to R. Bristow, esq.

Herberges. The mansion of this manor is a quarter of a mile from the church, towards Rawreth; the name is sometimes written Harberts. In 1284, it was holden of the king, in capite, by William, son of Warine, and William de Haverburgh; and by William de Hareburgh in 1304; succeeded by Adam, his son and heir, who, with Isolda de Belhous, held this estate in 1340: he died in 1372, and was succeeded by his son John. In 1372, John Baud, esq., held this messuage, named Haverberge, with the same quantity of land, the rent only two shillings and threepence. Afterwards, this manor was enlarged by lands in Rawreth and Hockley. It was holden by Thomas Lawrence, who died in 1551, and is described as containing one messuage, one cottage, three hundred acres of arable, twelve of meadow, forty of wood. John was his son. John Wincoll, esq. died in 1576, in possession of this manor; and left Isaac, his son, his heir. It belonged to Thomas White in 1623; and was purchased of Thomas Clutterbuck, esq. by sir William Humphreys, knt. and bart. in 1719.

* By his second lady he had three daughters: Anne, married to Thomas, son of sir John Barrington, bart.; Mary, wife of sir Henry St. John; and Essex, married to Daniel Finch, earl of Nottingham.





The manor-house of **Whatley** is half a mile north-west from the church. The earliest owners of this estate on record were sir John de Burgh, who granted it to sir John Handel, who gave it in free marriage, with his daughter Alice, to William Fitz-Warine, gentleman of the bed-chamber to Edward the first. It was afterwards in the Belhouse, Knivet, and Clopton families, who sold it to Thomas Cheke, esq.; and his granddaughter Anne, lady Tipping, sold it, in 1718, to sir William Humphreys, knt. and bart.

CHAP.
XVII.

Whatley.

Down-hall is a quarter of a mile from the church; it belonged to sir Thomas Belhouse, who died in 1375. In 1419 it belonged to Thomas Knivet, esq., and by the marriage of Thomasine Knivet, it was conveyed to the Clopton family. In 1514 it was holden by agreement, for life, by John Hastings, esq., and afterwards belonged to Mr. Downes, attorney, of London; of whom it was purchased, in 1719, by sir William Humphreys, knt. and bart.

Down
Hall.

This stately Gothic edifice is of great apparent antiquity; it occupies ground considerably elevated, at the upper end of the town; and consists of a spacious nave, side aisles, and chancel. It is dedicated to the Holy Trinity; and there are five large bells in a lofty tower, above which there rises a shingled spire.* The south chapel is kept in repair by the owner of the site of the castle.

Church.

This rectory being appendant to the capital manor, was given to the priory of Prittlewell, by Robert de Essex; and having passed to the crown, was granted, by queen Elizabeth, to lord Hunsdon, who presented to the living in 1593: Henry, his youngest son, conveyed it, in 1621, with the manor, to Robert Rich, earl of Warwick; from whom it passed to successive earls: and to Daniel, earl of Nottingham, one of the co-heirs of the family; who sold both the manor and advowson to Robert Bristow, esq. There was a chantry in this church, with a priest, and also a chapel for his use, but it is not known where it was situated.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to one thousand two hundred and three; and to one thousand three hundred and thirty-nine, in 1831.

HADLEIGH.

This parish occupies high ground, near South Benfleet, and is separated from Canvey island by a branch of the river, named Hadleigh Ray. It is named in records

Hadleigh.

* The most ancient inscription in this church is of the date of 1416; but there is a mutilated ancient altar-tomb, displaying very beautiful workmanship, in the pointed Gothic style which prevailed from the twelfth to the fourteenth century: it bears no inscription, but undoubtedly covers the remains of some dignified person of celebrity. There is, also, in the south chapel, a monument without inscription; but the arms of Vere, impaling Howard, appear on the ceiling; and the arms of Barrington, impaled by Lunsford, are represented in the fourth window of the north aisle. A tomb under the arch, between the chancel and north aisle is defaced, but some shields remain, with the arms of Barrington.

Inscrip-
tion.

There are some charities belong to this parish, but they seem to have been neglected.

Charities.

BOOK II. **Hadley ad Castrum, or Hadleigh Castle,** from a castle built here by Hubert de Burgh, in the time of Henry the third, with that king's leave. **Castle.** This picturesque ruin, exhibiting the remains of ancient strength and magnificence, occupies the summit of an eminence which commands a pleasing and extensive prospect over the broad estuary formed by the junction of the Thames and the Medway at the Nore, from whence their combined streams proceed toward the German Ocean. The area inclosed by the fortress, is elliptical; in length, one hundred and ten, and in breadth, forty paces. It is built of stone, strongly cemented together by mortar of extraordinary hardness; and the north and south walls strengthened by buttresses. The entrance was at the north-west angle, between two lofty towers, and a deep fosse extended along the north side; two other towers, at the north-east and south-east angles, form the chief part of the ruins that now remain: these are outwardly circular, but octangular within, and each divided into five apartments. In the tower on the south-east, near what appears to have been a fire-place, there are several courses of thin bricks placed in the herring-bone mode of building. The walls, pierced with narrow loop-holes, were lined with squares of chalk, and at the bottom measured nine feet in thickness, gradually diminishing toward the top, where they were five feet.

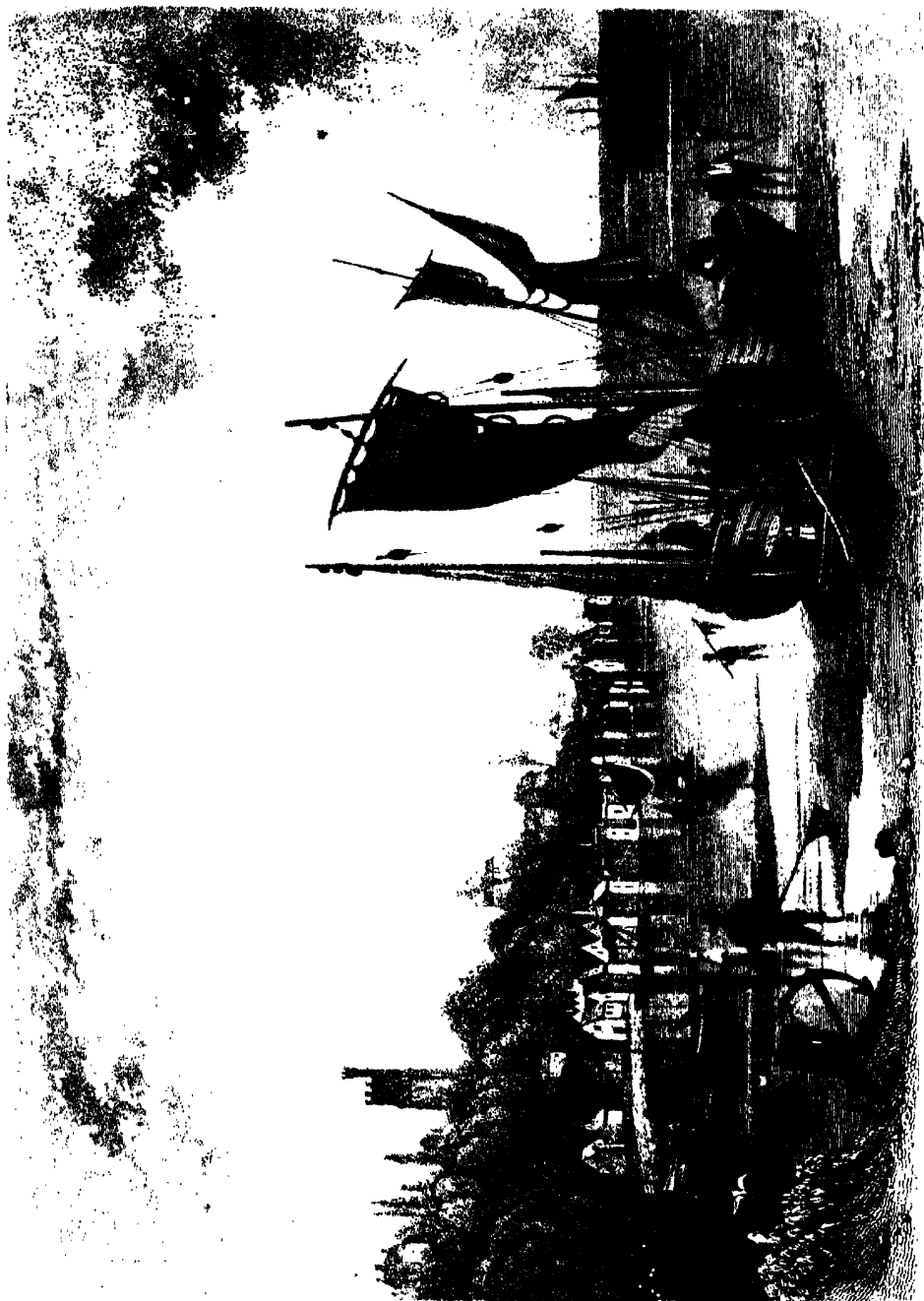
The village is small, and very pleasantly situated on the road to Southend: it has a fair on the twenty-fourth of June, and formerly had a weekly market on Wednesdays. Distant from Rochford three miles, and from London thirty-five.

Manor. Hadleigh is not mentioned in Domesday, nor in the Red-book of the Exchequer; and part of it is believed to have been included in the extensive park belonging to the honour of Rayleigh. After Suene and Henry de Essex, Richard de Thany had the government of this castle in the time of Henry the third. The earl of Oxford, and afterwards the duke of York, as also the earl of Richmoud, held both the castle and manor. They were given by Edward the sixth to lord Rich, from whom they passed to his noble descendants, earls of Warwick. On the partition of the Warwick estates, this fell to the share of Henry, viscount St. John; which his son, lord Bolingbroke, having sold, it passed, by marriage, to the Bernard family.

Church. The church is an ancient Gothic building, dedicated to St. James, and distinguished by the peculiarity of the east end of the chancel being semi-circular, in the form of a Roman basilica, and separated from the nave by a very heavy arch. The windows are small, and lancet-shaped, and that on the south is ornamented with the coats of arms of several of the ancient families to whom the lordship belonged, particularly of Strangman, who had possessions here at a very early period.*

* William Strangman lived here in the time of Edward the third; and his successor, of the same name, died in 1410, followed by Richard, who died in 1480. William Strangman married Alice, daughter and heiress of Thomas Hooe, and had by her, John, the father of John Strangman, whose son Edward was succeeded by his son Francis, who died in 1557, leaving numerous daughters, and his son and heir,





In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and twenty-nine inhabitants, increased to three hundred and sixty-five in 1831.

CHAP.
XVII.*

LEE, OR LEIGH.

This parish extends eastward from Hadleigh to Southend, and supplies numerous pleasant walks and picturesque excursions to the visitors of that favourite watering place. The lands rise from the village to a considerable height, affording from various stations very extensive prospects, and agreeable situations for numerous capital houses; and in the summer months the enlivening sea breezes, with the agreeable scenery, render this part of the country very pleasant and healthy; but, being included in the low marshy district, it yet retains the character of unhealthiness, though by no means in the same degree as formerly.

The village is on the border of the Thames: the houses mostly small, and of insignificant appearance. Besides the church, the Wesleyan Methodists have a place of worship here. There is a custom-house, and a small port, formed from the channel passing by this place to South Benfleet. The inhabitants are chiefly fishermen engaged in the oyster trade, which is in the management of a Company, who annually provide proper vessels that go out for the spawn of the oyster, found in a jelly-like form in various places, particularly near Cancele bay, on the coast of France. This substance, laid on the sands, in a few months acquires consistency, and the shells and young brood are formed. The quality of this shore, which renders it peculiarly adapted to the breeding of oysters, was accidentally discovered, nearly a hundred and fifty years ago, by a person named Outing, who, taking this district on a lease, in a short time acquired an independent fortune. In this vicinity there is one of the finest springs of water in the hundreds of Essex. There is a fair on the second Tuesday in May. Distant from Southend four miles, and from London thirty-nine.

If, as is supposed, this district was part of Rayleigh, it was separated from it before the Conquest, and in possession of a freeman; at the survey it belonged to Ralph Peverell. There is only one manor.

The mansion is near the church, on the top of the hill. The first record relating to this place after the Conquest, was in the time of Edward the second, when it belonged to Apton, of Apton-hall, in Canewdon. From the year 1337 to 1673, the

Leigh
Hall.

John Strangman, whose eldest son and successor was William Strangman, who married a daughter of sir William Kemp, and, for his second wife, had Mary, daughter of sir Thomas Barnardiston. He died in 1573, and his son and successor, Bartholomew, died in 1580, succeeded by Robert and James; of whom the last was a learned antiquarian, and made extensive collections for the history of his native county; and to whom all succeeding writers on the subject are greatly indebted. He left a large volume, chiefly relating to monasteries, which is preserved in the Cottonian collection, in the British Museum. Arms of Strangman: Parti per bend, sable and argent, a bend, raguled, counterchanged.

* The name, in records, is written Lega, Legra, Legh, Leighe, Lighe, Lye, Lygh.

BOOK II. holders of the manor or lordship of Rochford appear to have had this estate; these were the Rochfords, Bohun, Boteler, Bullen, and Rich. Sir John Bernard had this estate and Hadleigh in right of his mother, and from him it passed to his descendants.

Church. The church, on the top of the hill, opposite to the channel named Leigh-road, is a spacious ancient building, with a nave, north and south aisles, and a chancel. It is dedicated to St. Clement; and, in a lofty tower, there are five bells.*

The rectory formerly went with the manor, till the partition of the Warwick estate, when coming to Daniel, earl of Nottingham, he gave it, with Prittlewell, to the bishops of London, in exchange for the vicarage of Okenham, in Rutlandshire, where he had his seat of Burley-on-the-Hill.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to nine hundred and five, and, in 1831, to one thousand two hundred and fifty-four.

EASTWOOD.

Eastwood. This parish is named from its situation, eastward from the woods and parks of Rayleigh and Thundersley. In Edward the Confessor's time it belonged to the father of Suene, of Essex, to the latter of whom it had been granted by the Conqueror, at the time of the survey. It is in length nearly four miles, and in breadth one: the village distant from Rochford two, and from London forty, miles.

Eastwoodbury. Eastwoodbury, the manor-house, is near the east end of the church. The estate, after having belonged to a family named from the place, of whom Robert de Estwood was the owner in 1210 and 1211, passed, as the manor of Rayleigh did, to Robert Bristow, esq. and his descendants. This estate is now in possession of William Weld Wren, esq.

Inscriptions. * There are, among the numerous inscriptions in this church and church yard, memorials of the following persons: "Mary, wife of John Bonner, who bore him eleven sons and eight daughters. Ob. 26 Jan. 1580.—Thomas Saman, aged seventy, grandfather to Thomas Saman, aged fourteen years, who both died on one day, 5 Aug. 1576.—Richard Haddock, with the effigies of a man and three women, with ten sons, and eleven daughters.—A tomb erected by sir Richard Haddock, knt. to the memory of his grandfather, captain Richard Haddock, who died 22 May, 1666, with the arms.—On a monument with a bust, and three salmon's hauriant argent, to the memory of Robert Salmon, esq. master of Trinity-house in 1617, sheriff of London in 1640, died in 1641, aged seventy-four.—Capt. John Rogers, of his majesty's ship Unicorn, distinguished by his magnanimous conduct in three engagements with the Dutch in 1672. Ob. 30 Nov. 1685, aged sixty-five.—Mrs. Judith Darling, who by her last will gave divers sums of money to this and other parishes, and bequeathed several yearly payments to private persons, and for putting apprentice poor children, &c. Ob. 4 Oct. 1678."

Charities. Captain Lawrence Moyer, of Milton hall, in Prittlewell, in commemoration of a deliverance from shipwreck, in Leigh-road, gave one hundred pounds, to pay five pounds per annum for ever to twenty poor seamen's widows, of the town of Leigh.

James Moyer, who lies buried in this church, gave fifty pounds to the poor of the parish.

Sir Samuel Moyer, bart. erected a free-school in this town, for the instruction of children in christian

Barrow-hall, also named Breg-hall, is another manor. The house is about half a mile north from the church. To distinguish it from Barrow-hall in Great Wakering, it is named West Barrow-hall. The family, surnamed de Berwes, appear to have taken that surname from this place, which was holden by Stephen de Berwes of sir John de Rochford. It belonged to Philip Perdriz, of Sutton, who died in 1313, whose heir was John Hevingham, on whose decease, in 1331, his heir was his son John, afterwards honoured with knighthood, and his descendants retained possession more than two centuries. It belonged to sir Anthony de Heavingham, who died in 1557, leaving a son named Henry; but sir Anthony, previous to his decease in 1547, had conveyed this estate to Richard Smart, of Ipswich, who, on his death, in 1560, was succeeded by his son John. The next possessor was Thomas Emery, in 1618, whose son Thomas sold the estate in parcels. It now belongs to sir William Rush, bart.

CHAP.
XVII.Barrow
Hall.

Eastwood-lodge is a capital old mansion, on a hill two miles west from the church. It is in the occupation of Mr. Caure.

Eastwood
Lodge.

The church, dedicated to St. Lawrence and All Saints, has a nave and two aisles, with a chancel, of one pace. Massive pillars separate the aisles from the chancel, and there is a tower with a spire.*

Church

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to five hundred and thirty, and, in 1831, to five hundred and thirty-one.

RAWRETH.

This parish is in the north-west corner of the hundred. It extends, westward, to Wickford; to Rayleigh on the south: is bounded on the north by the river Crouch; by Hockley on the east. Battle-bridge, over the river Crouch, is partly in this parish. The name is written Raureth, Rawreth, Ragel, Raree, Raurith, Raurere, Ragerin. The distance from Rochford is six, and from London thirty-two, miles.

Rawreth.

It is not mentioned in Domesday; and is therefore supposed to have been made to form a manor after the writing of that record. Odo, bishop of Bayeux, had lands here on either side of it. In the reign of king John it was granted to Hugh de Barneval; in 1253, belonged to Henry de Barneval; and to William Sandon, the king's cook, in 1266.

The mansion of this manor is distant three quarters of a mile, south-east, from the church. William Gofford, or Gifford, held it of the king in 1284; and it belonged to his heirs and successors of Bowers Gifford, till it passed to John, son of William

Rawreth
Hall.

* There is an inscription in the church-yard on Thomas Purchas, vicar of this church forty-five years, who died 20 Dec. 1657, aged sixty-seven. He was either brother, or son, to the learned and industrious Samuel Purchas, born at Dunmow, or Thaxted, and author of the valuable work entitled "Purchase's Pilgrimage," in five vols. folio: he was likewise instituted to this vicarage, 24 Aug. 1604, and removed to St. Martin's, Ludgate, where he died in 1628.

Inscrip-
tion.

BOOK II.

Doreward, in 1385; some individuals of this family having previously had possessions here. John Doreward dying without issue, in 1495, the estate passed to his sister Elizabeth, who was married to Thomas Fotheringhay, whose three daughters, co-heiresses, conveyed their shares to several proprietors; one moiety of which having been appropriated to St. John's college, Cambridge, the remainder has since been conveyed to that foundation.

Beches
Manor.

The manor-house of this estate lies between Battle-bridge and Hull-bridge, a mile north-east from the church. Bacheneix, from which Beches has been formed, was the name it bore at the survey; at which time it belonged to Odo, having previously belonged to an owner named Ravengar. There is no further account of this manor till the reign of Edward the third, when it belonged to a family surnamed de la Beche; afterwards to the Tyrell family; and it belonged to Thomas White, D.D. the founder of Zion College, in London, who settled it on that foundation. He died in 1624.

Beke Hall.

This estate has been reckoned a manor; the mansion is on the left of the road from Rayleigh to Wickford. It belonged to Richard Wiseman in 1526; and sir Edward Boteler, knt. died in 1627, holding this manor of George Foster.

Trinde-
hay.

In 1210, this manor or hamlet belonged to Robert de Trindeho, who held it of the honour of Rayleigh. Its successive possessors were Robert Gifford of Bures, in 1300, and Peter Savary, succeeded by his son William, in 1305: the next possessor was Roger Darcy, esq. of St. Clare's, in Danbury, succeeded by Thomas, his son and heir. It belonged to Robert Trapps in 1571, followed in this possession by Robert, his son.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, has a nave and chancel; and a south aisle belonging to the lord of Beches' manor, who is to keep it in repair.* The rectory was in the gift of Prittlewell priory, to which it was given by Robert de Essex: on the dissolution of monasteries, passing to the crown, it was granted by Edward the sixth to Richard Fermor; from whom it was conveyed to Dr. L. Andrews, scholar, and afterwards fellow and master, of Pembroke-hall, in Cambridge, and bishop of Winchester, who gave it to the master and fellows; and he also gave them one thousand pounds for founding two fellowships there.

This parish, in 1821, contained three hundred and twenty-seven, and in 1831 three hundred and twenty-one inhabitants.

HOCKLEY.

Hockley.

This parish extends eastward from Rawreth; in records it is divided into little and great Hockley; and is also named Hockley super Montem, on account of its high situation. It is a parish of considerable extent, containing five thousand ~~of~~ ^{houses} of

* This church has lately received the addition of sixty-three free sittings; toward the expense of which, the "Society for the enlargement of Churches and Chapels" gave 50*l*. There is a charity-school here, partly supported by subscription of about 10*l*. per annum.

land.* The village is pleasantly situated; distant from Rochford four miles, and from London thirty-six. The capital manor, before and after the Conquest, belonged to the monastery of Barking. Another manor belonged to Robert, son of, Wimar; and there was another, which, at the time of the survey, belonged to Suene; afterwards there were five manors.

Hockley-hall is near the church, southward; after the dissolution of religious houses, it was granted to Thomas lord Cromwell; and in 1557, to sir Richard Rich, descending to his posterity, who had this estate till the death of Charles, earl of Warwick in 1673, when it was allotted to Daniel, earl of Nottingham, one of the co-heirs; and he sold it to Robert Bristow, whose descendants have retained possession to the present time. It belongs to Robert Bristow, esq.

Hockley
Hall.

The mansion of Blounts is a quarter of a mile from the church. It first appears in the record in 1453, when it belonged to Richard Pakelsham, lord of Pakelsham-hall. It was afterwards in the possession of James Baker, esq. who died in 1569. Henry, his son and heir, succeeded to this estate, and on his death, in 1611, left three co-heiresses.

Blounts.

The mansion of Bawdewyns is in a low situation, near Hull-bridge, above a mile north from the church. The first account of it is in 1500, when it belonged to Robert Yngoe, who had lands also in Hawkswell: his heir was Mary, wife of John Strangman, whose son, William Strangman, esq. was their heir, followed by Bartholomew his son, whose sons were Robert and James Strangman. Dudley Fortescue, esq. was the next owner of this estate, and was succeeded by his son Daniel: it passed afterward to Richard Hopper, to Thomas Holt, esq. and to his nephew, Thomas White, ancestor of the present possessor.

Bawde-
wyns.

This manor is named from its situation, and is about half a mile north-east from the church. Godbold and Odo had it at the time of the survey; and the principal owners of it, from 1274 to 1515, were John de Kokeham, Johanna Inglethorpe, Elizabeth Scrope, and their heirs. It was one of the estates which Henry the eighth assigned to his cast-off queen, Anne of Cleves, for her maintenance; afterwards it belonged to — Thickness, who left five daughters, one of whom was married to the rev. Mr. Hotchkins, of Romford; it now belongs to the Bristow family. Lower Hockley hall is the property of John Robert Spencer Phillips, esq. of Riffham's Danbury.

Lower
Hockley
Hall.

The manor of Plumberow is also a considerable hamlet or village in the southern part of the parish. The hall is on the road from the church toward Rochford: being on high ground, it has commonly been named Plumberow Mount. An ancient family residing here, took their surname from this place. Thomas de Plumberg had this estate in 1211; Laurence was his son and heir at the time of his decease in 1253.

Plum-
berow.

* The soil here is generally heavy, but in a capital state of cultivation; and, on the road toward Rayleigh, there is a view of a very rich vale, bounded by distant higher grounds: the whole a scene to the eye of rich cultivation, well wooded."—*Young's Essex*, vol. I. p. 34.

BOOK II. Among several succeeding possessors was sir John Cutt, who died in 1520, and was succeeded by his son John Cutt, esq. who died in 1528: they held of the king as of the honour of Rayleigh. The next possessor of this estate was Edmund Tyrell, esq. and Edmund Church, his eldest daughter's son, and his three other daughters, were his co-heirs. It afterwards belonged to George Cheveley, esq. of Roxwell.

Church. The church is on a high hill, in the most conspicuous part of the parish; it is dedicated to St. Peter, and has a nave, north aisle, and chancel, with massive pillars separating these from each other. It has an octagon tower, with a shingled spire.*

This church belonged to Barking Abbey; and they presented to it as a rectory till 1384, when, appropriating the great tithes to themselves, they presented to it as a vicarage till their dissolution, when both the rectory and vicarage went to the crown. The great tithes were granted by James the first to Edmund Newport, and others; and soon after the advowson of the vicarage was given to Wadham College, Oxford, who first presented in 1619; and the great tithes have also been given to them.

The population of this parish in 1821 amounted to seven hundred and eighty-four. and in 1831 to seven hundred and seventy-seven.

HAWKSWELL, OR HAWKWELL.

Hawks-
well. This small parish is situated between Hockley and Rochford. The village consists of a few straggling houses, on a level piece of ground: distant from Rochford one, and from London thirty-nine miles.†

Ulmar, a freeman, had the lands of this parish in the time of Edward the Confessor; which, at the survey, had been given to Eudo, and holden under him by Pirot: Suene had also some lands here. There are two manors.

Hawks-
well Hall. This manor house is near the west end of the church. In 1340, an estimate being taken of the knights' fees belonging to the honour of Rayleigh, Ralph Pirot, or Perot, was at that time found to hold a moiety of this manor, by the service of one knight's fee; and the name of Perot was formerly to be seen inscribed here, with the date of 1340. The principal owners afterwards were the families of de Coggeshall and Doreward, till for want of male heirs it went to the crown, and was granted to Thomas Boteler, earl of Ormond, who died in 1515, from whose daughter and co-heiress, Margaret, married to sir William Bullen, it descended to sir Thomas Bullen, viscount Rochford, whose daughter Mary, by marriage, conveyed it to William Carey esq. and by her second marriage, to sir William Stafford. It afterwards belonged to Richard lord Rich, and to Daniel, earl of Nottingham, who sold the manor, demesne lands, and advowson, to the ancestor of the Bristow family, to whom it now belongs.

Clements. In 1440, this manor belonged to Philip Clement, whose daughter and heiress was

Charity. * There is an almshouse for two dwellers, near a house called Whitbreada, but has no endowment.

† The average annual produce per acre here is—wheat twenty-six, barley thirty-two bushels.

married to John Ingoe, who had with her this estate. Afterwards it passed by purchase to the noble family of Rich, earls of Warwick: it belonged to Thomas Holt, esq. in 1745; and ultimately came to the White family. The manor-house is half a mile west from the church.

CHAP.
XVII.

The church is a small building, dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The rectory all along appendant to the manor of Hawkswell-hall, was united with the living of Assingdon, in 1429; but again separated from it, in or before the year 1457. Church.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and sixty-two, and in 1831, three hundred and twenty-nine inhabitants.

SUTTON.

Lying south-south-east from Hawkswell and Rochford, this parish is supposed to have derived its name from that circumstance; originally South-town, by a barbarous pronunciation, converted to Sutton; in Domesday, Suttun; and to distinguish it from Little Sutton in Prittlewell, it has been named Great Sutton. The small village and church are distant from Chelmsford seventeen miles, and from London forty-one.* Robert, son of Wimarc, and two freemen, held these lands before the conquest; which, at the survey, belonged to Sucne, whose under-tenants were Ascelin, Roger, and an English woman, named Aluid. Sutton.

The manor of Sutton-hall is what was holden by Ascelin; the mansion is near the east end of the church. Sir Hammond de Sutton, who lived in the time of Edward the first, is believed to have derived his surname from this place.† In 1210, Thomas de Plumbergh, of Plumberow, in Hockley, held this estate of the honour of Rayleigh; and was succeeded on his decease, in 1247, by Laurence, his son and heir; on whose death, in 1253, he left it to John de Plumberg, the son of his brother Thomas. In 1264, John de Stodham died in possession of this estate, in which he was succeeded by Roger, his brother and heir; on whose death, in 1268, Thomas de Stodham succeeded, who died in 1285. In 1304, William Cosyn had this possession; and it was holden of queen Philippa, by knight's service, by Peter Cosyn, who died in 1334: the last of this family was Rose, only surviving daughter of William and Joan Cosyn; and she, by marriage, conveyed the estate to Thomas Flemyng, esq., of Flemyngs, in Runwell. From this family, passing by female heirship, it became divided, and successively belonged to various proprietors, and to lord Richard Rich, who died in 1566; John Barrett, esq., of Belhouse, had also two portions of it, which afterwards belonged to the Wyatt family; and in 1629, the whole estate belonged to Thomas Hobson; whose son, Charles Hobson, Sutton Hall.

* Average annual produce of this parish is stated to be—wheat twenty-eight, barley thirty-four, bushels per acre.

† Arms of Sutton: Vert, a crusulè between three cups, argent. Ed. R. Mores.

BOOK II.

esq., sold it to William Brittridge, esq., of Harrow-on-the-Hill. He purchased the mansion called New-house, of ——— Aylet; and made it the place of his residence. By his first wife, Martha, daughter of captain Goodlad, of Leigh, he had his only son, Richard, who had three daughters, Elizabeth, unmarried; Martha, wife of Jehu Hall; and Anne, married to the rev. Thomas Rant, rector of Sturmere, who had by her, John, rector of this church, and other sons and daughters: * Jehu Hall, by Martha, his wife, had Chester-More Hall, esq., counsellor-at-law, the possessor of this estate in 1772. It now belongs to William Cockerton, esq., of Sutton.

FleteHall.

The mansion of this manor is near the arm of the sea, named the Fleet, which proceeds towards Rochford: it is half a mile north from the church. This estate, as well as Sutton-hall, belonged to Suene, and was holden under him by Aluid, an English woman. It belonged to Serlo de Flete, in 1210; and was many years in the families of Perdriz, Hevingham, and Smart; and belonged to Mr. Bailey, of Romford. It was lately the property of John Barrington, esq., and is now in the hands of trustees for sale.

Church.

The church is a small ancient building, with a nave and chancel; and a tower of stone.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to eighty-nine, and in 1831, to ninety-six.

PRITTLEWELL.

Prittlewell.

The parish of Prittlewell is on the border of the Thames, between Leigh and Southchurch: the name in records is Prittwella, Pritwell; supposed, from a well in the priory manor, reckoned the best in this hundred. The village is pleasantly situated, consisting of modern and well-built houses; the inhabitants chiefly engaged in agricultural pursuits; and the surrounding country pleasant and fertile. There is a fair on the fifteenth of July. Distant from Billericay fifteen miles, and from London forty.

The lands of the capital manor appear to have belonged to Suene before the conquest, no former possessor being named in Domesday. A freeman had a portion of this estate, which was holden by Tedric Pointel at the survey; the church of the Holy Trinity, at Canterbury, had another considerable part of it named Mildentun. There were afterwards five manors.

PRIORS.

This manor had its name from the religious house to which it belonged, and the remains of which form the manor-house, a quarter of a mile north from the church. Robert de Essex, son of Suene, was the founder of the priory, and made this manor,

* Arms of Brittridge: Sable, a bend argent, charged with three boars' heads erased, of the field, between two cinquefoils, azure.

with large demesnes, a part of its endowment.* After the dissolution, it was granted, in 1527, to Thomas Audeley, brother of Thomas lord chancellor Audeley; and in 1551, was conveyed to Robert, son of Richard lord Rich, whose descendants retained possession, till, on the partition of the family estates, in 1673, this manor became the property of Daniel, earl of Nottingham, of whom it was purchased by Daniel Scratton, of Billericay; who also purchased Milton-hall, and other estates in this neighbourhood, which has continued in possession of his descendants. It now belongs to John Scratton, esq.

Earls'-hall is a quarter of a mile north from the church on the opposite side of the road from Priors, near Polsted common. This manor having belonged to the earls of Oxford, was, on that account, named Earls' Fee: it is what belonged to Suene, under the name of Puteseia. In the reigns of Henry the second, Richard the first, and king John, it belonged to a family surnamed de Polsted; and was afterwards divided, a portion of it being in the family of Southchurch, and another in that of de Vere; after whom it went to the noble families of Arundel, Howard, Berkley, lord Rich, and to the earl of Nottingham; from whom it passed by sale, and became successively the property of various persons, and of the Bristow family.

Earls' Fee,
with Pol-
sted Vic.

From these capital manors of Suene, there arose the four subordinate or reputed manors of Botelers, which belonged to William de Botyller, in 1260. Serlesland, which belonged to Serlo, son of Philip, in 1280; and to the heirs of Richard Serle, in 1340. Berlands and Blake formerly belonged to J. Baud, to J. Webb, and to Edward Bashe, of whom they were purchased by Richard lord Rich, on whose death they passed, as the rest of that family's estates in this parish. Derys, in 1453, belonged to Richard Pakelesham; and in 1575, to Thomas Shaa, of Terling; from whom they were conveyed to Robert lord Rich. These were purchased, with the other estates, by the ancestor of the family of Scratton.

Botelers,
Serles-
land,
Berlands,
Derys.

This manor having belonged to the Knights Templars, accounts for the first part of its name; it was also named Little Sutton. The mansion is near a mile north-east from the church; it had formerly a chapel or oratory belonging to it, and a considerable part of the demesne lands extend into the parish of Great Sutton. It was holden by the name of Sutton, in the time of Edward the Confessor; and at the survey belonged to Tedric Pointel, whose under tenants were, Grimbold, Hunold, and Robert. In 1280, it belonged to the preceptory of Cressing Temple, in Witham, but when and by whom given is not known: it retained possession till the

Temple
Sutton.

* This priory was founded in the reign of king Henry the second, for monks of the order of Clugni, and dedicated to St. Mary. It was a cell to the alien priory of Lewes, in Sussex, and naturalized in the time of Edward the third. At the dissolution it was valued at one thousand five hundred and fifty-five pounds, twelve shillings, and twopence. There were in it only seven monks. See *Tanner's Notitia*, p. 180; *Moncast.* vol. i. p. 619; a List of the Priors in *Newcourt*, vol. i. p. 473.

BOOK II.

dissolution, when it was granted, in 1541, to George Harper, who sold it, in 1543, to sir Richard Rich, and it was retained by his descendants, earls of Warwick, till it became the property of Henry St. John, lord Bolingbroke, in right of his mother, Mary Rich; and he, in 1714, sold it to sir Richard Child, bart. It is in the occupation of Mr. T. Laver, and belongs to the hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley.

Milton
Hall.

This manor is on the southern part of the parish, and the Hall is about mid-way between Leigh and South-church, which accounts for its name; in records, written Middletun, Mildentun, since contracted to Milton. The hamlet here was formerly a parish, and the remains of the church were, some time ago, visible at low water.

This lordship was granted to the prior and monks of the Holy Trinity, at Canterbury, by Edward the Confessor: * it was retained by the monastery till the dissolution, in 1539, when it was made to form part of the endowment of the dean and canons instituted there by Henry the eighth; but was, by the same monarch, taken from them in exchange for other possessions; and in 1545, was granted to sir Richard lord Rich, and afterwards conveyed, by purchase, to the Scrutton family. It now belongs to John Baynton Scrutton, Esq.

Chalkwell
Hall.

This reputed manor was holden of Milton-hall, by knight's service and an annual rent, and three of the best living creatures for Heriots. The manor-house is a mile and a half south-west from the church. In 1488, — Cobham, esq., of Berneston, was lord of this manor; and in 1498 it belonged to sir Thomas Boteler: afterwards it belonged to — Malby, and to Lambert Pitchers; who sold it to Mrs. Jonas Lamb, of Leigh, whose daughter had it in marriage with Charles Tyrrel, esq., of Rochford.

Church.

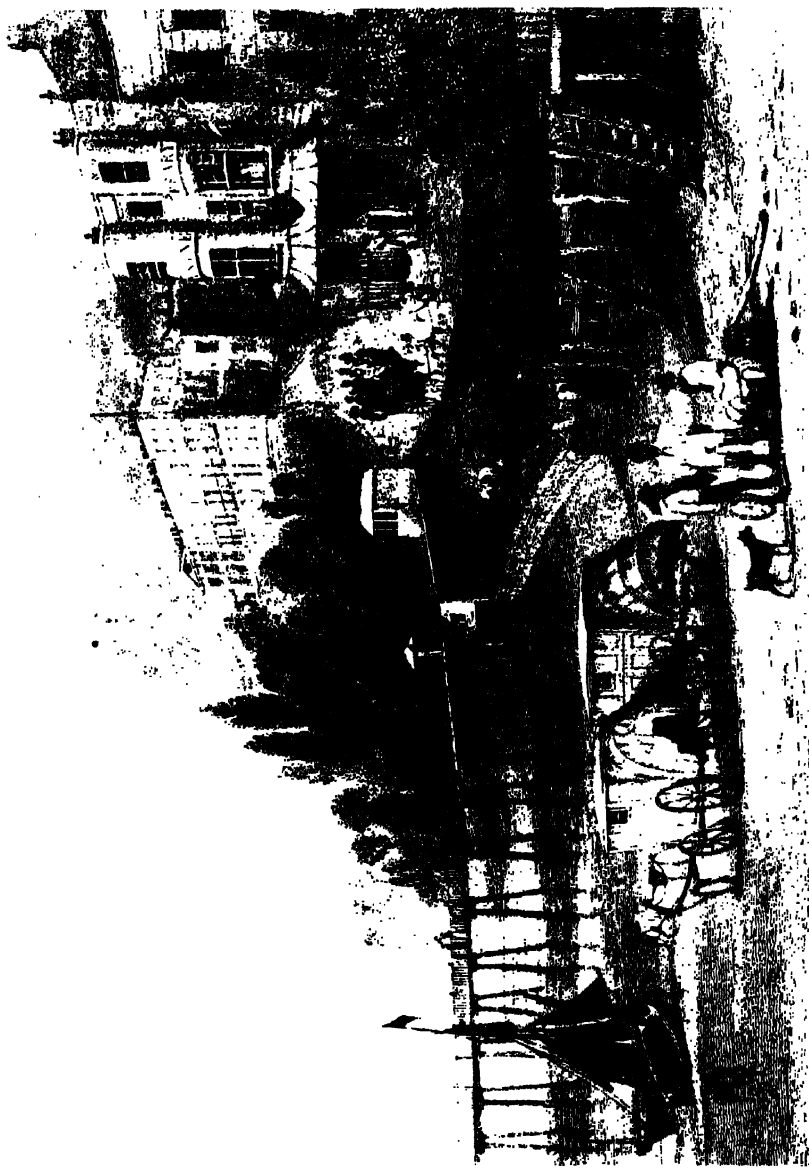
The church is a handsome structure, in the latter English style of architecture; it occupies the summit of the hill on which the town is situated; and being a large and remarkable building, is seen at a great distance, and made to form a good sea-mark; it is dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and has an unusually large south-aisle; which, where it extends across the chancel, † is named the Little Chancel; its lofty stone tower has pyramidal corners, and contains six musical bells.

In the time of Edward the fourth a chantry was endowed here with two wardens, a master, and certain brethren, to find a priest, called Jesus Priest.

* The confirmation charter was to this effect: "I, Edward, by the grace of God, king of England, do, by Divine impulse, grant to Christ church, in Canterbury, for my soul's health, Southevrecan, Lagefare, Middletun, &c. in Est Sex. If any one shall hereafter presume to deprive them of this, their lawful right, or shall consent to the same, let him be for ever anathematized, and damned with the traitor Judas." The hamlet of Milton having belonged to the church of Canterbury, is one of the peculiars of that see, subject in spirituals to the dean of Bocking, and the inhabitants choose a churchwarden and constable of their own.

Inscrip-
tions.

† There is a Latin inscription in the chancel, of which the following is a translation: "Here lies Robert Edmunds, sprung from the Lawsons, an ancient northern family. He lived in this priorship, a benefactor



SOUTHEND.

CHAP.
XVII.

The very pleasant hamlet of Southend is in the parish of Prittlewell, near the mouth of the Thames. It first began to attract visitors, as a watering place, about thirty years ago, but continued nearly stationary for a considerable time, owing to the failure of the original proprietors of the principal buildings; when the property being sold by auction in 1800, passed into the hands of James Heygate and Thomas Hope, esqs.; the late sir Thomas Wilson, lady Langham, and other families of distinction, became proprietors, and occasional residents here, and numerous public buildings have been erected.

The assembly-room and the theatre are fitted up in a superior style of elegance, and are well attended in the season: the latter was erected in 1804. The library is pleasantly situated on rising ground, between what are called the old and new towns, and is promptly supplied with new publications of general interest, and with periodicals of all descriptions. The capital inns are the hotel at the eastern extremity of the terrace, which is large and convenient, with elegant assembly and coffee rooms in full view of the Thames and the ocean; and the Ship tavern, which besides all other necessary accommodations for comfort and convenience, is supplied with hot and cold baths: the Hope tavern is also a very respectable inn. The surrounding district is luxuriant in vegetable productions, and the hill which the village partly occupies, is, in many parts of it, plentifully wooded. The air is dry and healthy; and the water, notwithstanding its mixture with the Thames, clear, and sufficiently salt. The Terrace, sometimes also called New Southend, is an extensive row of houses, furnished with pilasters and cornices of stone; and being on an eminence, commands an extensive view, exhibiting the most striking features of coast scenery, with the ever-changing prospect of the waters of the Nore, the Medway, and the sea; and animated by a constant succession of numerous vessels of various descriptions passing and re-passing; with the island of Sheppey, the fortress of Sheerness, and the hills of Kent, seen at a distance. At high water the view is strikingly beautiful; the river

to the indigent, and died, in the seventy-third year of his age, Feb. 7, 1587. Also with him lies buried Richard Cely, gent. adorned with every virtue and accomplishment, and who, returning from a voyage to the east, died (while in condolence with his sister on the death of her husband), in 1588, aged forty-eight." Also on Mary Davis, a descendant, on the mother's side, from the right hon. Thomas, lord Wentworth, lord chamberlain to Edward the sixth. Ob. 1623.—Among the more ancient inscriptions preserved by Weaver are, on "Master John Lucas, bachelor of divinity, formerly vicar of this church, who died 16 Jan. 1477."—"Pray for the soul of John Cock the younger, and Margaret, his wyf, which John dyed 1532."—And on "Richard Bown, who died in 1432."

There is a charity-school, for sixteen scholars, instituted and endowed by Mrs. Scratten,

School.

BOOK II. here is five miles over, and the cliff on which the terrace is built, is high enough to command the whole: the general effect is much improved by the outline of luxuriant foliage reflected on the broken woodland shore. There are places of worship here for Independent and Baptist dissenters.

This commodious bathing station has gradually acquired an interest and celebrity with the public, not only from its many natural advantages, but from having received the preference of persons of rank; among whom may be noticed, the princess Charlotte of Wales, in 1800, and her mother, the princess of Wales, who attracted a fashionable circle here, during three months of the summer of 1804.

The most agreeable walks are in the front of the Terrace, on a declivity proceeding in the same direction, and along the beach upon extensive and firm beds of smooth sand, left by the tide; rural walks, lying westward from these, give an agreeable variety, exhibiting enlarged views in Essex, and over the Thames into Kent. Some pedestrians prefer more sheltered inland paths that lie north and north-east from the Terrace; and some find an agreeable variety in passing along the borders of corn-fields and pasture grounds, on the road toward the neighbouring villages of Sutton, Southchurch, and Prittlewell.

At no great distance from Southend, there is a stone, which marks the boundary of the jurisdiction of the corporation of London over the river Thames.

Coaches go daily for Southend from the Bull and Blue Boar in Aldgate; and a steam-packet starts from the Tower stairs every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.

Southend is distant from London forty-two miles, and four from Rochford.

This parish, with the hamlet of Milton and Southend, in 1821, contained one thousand nine hundred and twenty-two inhabitants; increased to two thousand two hundred and sixty-six in 1831.

SOUTHCHURCH.

South-
church.

This parish is on the most southern part of the hundred, and so near the sea, that it was formerly named Seachurch: it is named Sudmynster, in the Synod of Clovestro. The village is small, and chiefly inhabited by families engaged in agricultural occupations: distant from Leigh three miles, and from London forty-two.

In or before the year 824, this lordship and the church were given to Christ's church, at Canterbury, to which appropriation they were confirmed by Edward the Confessor, and that church, then dedicated to the Holy Trinity, held them at the time of the survey: lands here belonging to Ealdbhirt, a Saxon earl, and to his sister Selethryth, were also given to the same church; and this gift became the subject of a public investigation and scrutiny in a council held at Clovesham, in the



year 824,* but the affair was determined in favour of the church; and the lands were confirmed to archbishop Wilfred, and to his successors. There are three manors in this parish.

The mansion of this manor is half a mile south-west from the church; it was moated round, and has a fine spring of water constantly flowing over. It was holden under the prior and monks of Canterbury, by Richard de Southchurch, in 1294: Peter, his son, held it at the time of his death, in 1309; Alice and Joane were his co-heiresses. In 1342 the estate was in the possession of John de New-enton, from whom it was conveyed to William de Dersham, in 1350. After the dissolution it went to the family of Rich, and to Daniel, earl of Nottingham, who sold it to George Asser, esq., on whose death, in 1738, he left it to Elizabeth, his only child, the wife of the rev. John Davis, vicar of Barling. She died in 1739, and her husband in 1750; leaving their only child and heiress, Elizabeth Asser; who was married to Thomas Drew, esq., in 1746; their son, George Asser Drew, esq., and a daughter, Elizabeth. The said Thomas Drew, esq., had this estate in 1772.

South-
church
Hall.

The mansion of this manor is half a mile north-east from the church, and commands a most delightful prospect over the isles of Canvey, Grain, Sheppey, and Thanet; and also an expansive view of the Nore, the Medway, and the Thames. This manor also belonged to Thomas Drew, esq.

South-
church
Vic.

These two manors, in the time of Edward the Confessor, belonged to Godric, a king's thegne, and after the death of that king, Robert, son of Wimarce, had one moiety at that time, named Torpeia. The other was named Thorpe, and belonged to Inguar. At the time of the survey, Torpeia belonged to Suene; Ranulph, son of Ilger, had the other manor; and Odo was under-tenant to both. These two manors are now united. Thorp-hall is near the sea coast, a mile from the church. The estate formerly belonged to the Bohun family; and to John Mowbray, duke of Norfolk, in 1432. It also went to the Stafford family; but, on the arraignment and condemnation of the duke of Buckingham in 1521, it passed to the crown; and was granted by Henry the eighth to Brian Tuke, esq., who sold it to Robert Petre, esq. Afterwards it was purchased by sir Thomas Cheke, knt., from whom it descended to lord Thomas Archer.

The shore against this parish is flat, and where the tide leaves it dry for two or three miles, has, as well as the adjoining Milton shore, been made a nursery for

* Hence it appears that at this time lands could not be given to religious bodies without the examination and consent of the great council of the nation, or Wittenagemot. The original council of Clovesham is preserved among the MSS. of the late Thomas Astle, esq. with other curious originals, one of which is king Withred's charter, A.C. 693, to Liminge monastery, for four plough-lands in Wighelmisnetum, now Wilmington. Ex. Archiv. Eccl. Christi Cant.

BOOK II. oysters since the year 1700, when this part of the coast was first used for that important purpose by Mr. Outing.

Church. The church is a small ancient building with a tower and spire. It was repaired, and a gallery erected at the west end in 1756, at the charge of Thomas Drew, esq., and Elizabeth, his wife; and the family arms appear on the front.

This rectory is one of the peculiars of the archbishop of Canterbury, and in spirituals under the jurisdiction of the dean of Bocking.

In 1821 the population of this parish amounted to three hundred and fifty-three, and to four hundred and one in 1831.

SHOEBURY.

Shoebury. The two parishes of this name, anciently but one district, extend along the coast against the Nore; the most southerly point is a small promontory, called Shoebury Ness, from the Saxon Næpe, nose.* Shoebury, in records, is written, Essobiria, Scabivig, Scobrih, Shobery, Shoobery, Showbery, Sobury, and is first mentioned in 894, when king Alfred being engaged with the Danish invaders in the west of England, two troops of those barbarians landed here, and built a fort or castle, which has been since entirely levelled and washed away by the sea. Even before the Conquest this district was divided into South and North Shoebury.†

SOUTH SHOEBURY.

South Shoebury. This parish, named South, and also Great, Shoebury, is near the sea; and the village, which is small, is distant from Southend three, and from London forty-four miles. After the death of Edward the Confessor, Robert, the son of Wimarc, had this estate, which belonged to Suene at the time of the survey. There is only one manor which had an estate united to it, named Mustal Grondage,‡ the site of which is not known.

South Shoebury Hall. The manor-house is on the south side of the church. This lordship was given to the priory of Prittlewell, by the founder, Robert Fitz-Suene, together with the

* It was usually the custom of the Britons and Saxons to name hills and rocks from their apparent similarity to different parts of the human body.

† According to Camden, there was formerly a city here. He observes that, "here the land juts out into a nook, called Blacktail-point, and Shoebury-ness, from Shoebury, a little village upon it, formerly the city Scobipig; for we read that the Danes, being chased from Beamfleet, repaired to a city of the East-Saxons, called in their language Scobipig, and there fortified themselves." It is also observed, that not only large traces of the Danish works yet remain, but many urns have been found hereabouts, as if the Romans had been here. See *Gough's Camden*, vol. ii. p. 5.

‡ In 1580, Robert, lord Rich, died possessed of a pasture in this parish, called Mensual Grondage, which also belonged to his son Robert, earl of Warwick, who died in 1618.

advowson of the church; and it continued in that monastery till the dissolution: in 1537 it was granted, by Henry the eighth, to sir Richard Rich, and was retained by his descendants, earls of Warwick, till on the failure of male issue, their great inheritance went to co-heirs; when this became the property of Daniel, earl of Nottingham, in right of the lady Essex, his wife, and he sold it to Robert Bristow, esq. and it now belongs to his descendant, R. Bristow, esq.

The messuage named Dangers, is on the right of the road to North^s Shoebury, and some of the lands are washed by the sea: it seems to be the estate formerly named Dawes, which belonged to the Baker family. It afterwards was the property of sir Henry Fetherstone, bart. Dangers.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a small building, with a tower of flints, and a spire. The wreathed arch over the passage into the chancel is of ancient workmanship. Church.

This parish, in 1821, contained one hundred and fifty-three; and in 1831 two hundred and two inhabitants.

NORTH SHOEBURY.

This parish extends northward from South Shoebury, and the two villages are very near to each other. In the time of Edward the Confessor a freeman had the whole of the lands of this parish, which at the survey belonged to Suene, whose under tenant was named Walter. There are two manors. North Shoebury.

The mansion of this manor is on the south side of the church. In 1265, and 1272, William de Wodeham, of the family of that name, of Wodeham Ferrers, had this estate, and left his son Thomas his heir, in whose descendants it remained till, in 1419, Edward, son of Edward Wodeham, of this place, granted to Nicholas Fitz-Symond, this and other estates in this parish,* which remained in the family about a hundred years, till it became the heritage of Joane, daughter and heiress of Robert Fitz-Symon, first married to Robert Temperley, and secondly, to Henry Wentworth, conveyed to him this estate, which, in 1522, belonged to his son, Nicholas Wentworth, esq. It afterwards successively passed to — Aston, esq. in 1574; to Thomas Collins, whose widow married Charles Russel, and after his death sold this estate, in 1722, to George Asser, esq. of Southchurch-hall; it afterwards became the property of Thomas Drew, esq., and his heirs. It now belongs to Robert Bristow, esq. North Shoebury Hall.

* The Fitz-Simon family had estates here as early as 1204.—Sir John Fitz-Simon had four sons, Adam, Hugh, Edward, and Richard.—Edward, son of Adam Fitz-Simon, was the father of—Edward, who, by his wife, Anne, daughter of * * * Havering, had—John, who married Alice, daughter of lord Fitzwalter, and had by her—Philip, father of John; who, by his wife, Mary Chambers, had Robert and John. Robert married Katharine, daughter of Robert Manfield, by whom he had Joane, his daughter and heiress.

BOOK II.

Kents.

The manor-house of Kents was formerly a large ancient building moated round: it is situated between the two Shoeburies, and the land belonging to it extends into both those parishes. This estate seems to have been taken from the capital manor in, or before the reign of Edward the first, for in 1328 John Fitz-Simon held lands here, as did also Adam his son, and Simon his grandson. It was conveyed to Jasper Tyrrell in 1501, who, the same year, conveyed it to Henry Baker, in whose family, who lived at Southchurch and Bures Gifford, it continued many years. In 1535 Edward Baker, esq. died in possession of it, and his son James was his heir; whose son and heir, Henry Baker, esq., on his death in 1611, left his daughters Abigail, Judith, and Anne, his co-heiresses. Afterwards the estate was purchased by George Asser, esq., and became the property of Thomas Drew, esq., and his heirs. *

Church.

The church is a small building, with a nave and chancel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary: it has a tower and spire.

This church belonged to the priory of Prittlewell till its dissolution, when, passing to the crown, it has remained there to the present time. It was a rectory till 1423, when the great tithes were appropriated to the priory, and a vicarage instituted here. In 1719, this vicarage was augmented by bishop Robinson, with two hundred pounds, to which were added, two hundred pounds of queen Anne's bounty. In 1591, queen Elizabeth granted the rectory to Henry Best and John Wells; however it came again to the crown.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and ten; and to two hundred and twenty-six in 1831.

WAKERING.

Wakering.

The two parishes of this name, with the two Shoeburies, form the south-east corner of the county, bounded by the sea.

GREAT WAKERING.

Great
Wakering.

This parish extends along the coast from North Shoebury, and the road passes through it to Foulness Island.† The village is five miles south-east from Rochford, and from London forty-three.

Even before the conquest the lands of this parish belonged to Suene of Essex, who had also possession of it at the time of the survey. It was divided into two manors.

* Many Roman urns have been found in this neighbourhood.

† The lands of this parish rise above the islands, and it has a rich soil in high state of cultivation. The subsoil clay; at three feet deep, a white sand; very little gravel: in some places, under the sand, a reddish gravel. Average annual produce per acre—wheat, twenty-eight bushels; barley, thirty-four. There is a fair here on the twenty-fifth of July.

CHAP.
XVII.Manor of
Great
Wakering.

After the forfeiture of Henry de Essex, this lordship passed into the noble and dignified family of Nevill: it was forfeited by Hugh de Nevill on his being found in arms with Simon de Montfort, against king Henry the third; but restored to him again in 1266, in consideration of his giving up his manor and castle of Stoke-Curcy, and other estates; * John de Nevill, his son, who died in 1282, had this manor, which Robert de Bruce held under him for life, by the service of one knight's fee: Hugh, his son and heir, being under age, the king committed his wardship and marriage to Henry de Waleys, and Thomas de Weyland: he died in 1335, holding this manor of the king, in capite, as of his crown, by the service of one knight's fee: Ida, his widow, had the third part of it for life; and sir John Nevill, their son, died in possession of it in 1358; and after the death of his mother, Ida, and his widow, Alice, the reversion of the whole was in William de Bohun, earl of Northampton, and his heirs for ever: but he dying in 1360, and his son Humphrey, before his mother, the lady Alice, it did not go to the Bohun family till her death in 1394, when it became the property of Eleanor, wife of Thomas of Woodstock, and of Mary, wife of Henry, earl of Derby, afterwards king Henry the fourth. In 1421 this manor became the portion of Anne, countess of Stafford, and passed afterwards into the family of her third husband, William Bourchier, earl of Eu. It belonged to Henry Bourchier, earl of Essex, who died in 1483, whose grandson Henry succeeded to his title and estate, and was killed by a fall from his horse in 1540, when the estate became the inheritance of his only daughter Anne, married to William Parr, baron of Kendal, and marquis of Northampton: she was divorced from him, yet enjoyed this estate till her death in 1570, on which event it passed to her heir, Walter Devereux, viscount Hereford, lord Ferrers of Chartley, and earl of Essex, grandson of sir John Devereux, by Cicely Bourchier, his wife, aunt to Henry, earl of Essex. Robert, earl of Essex, his son, sold it to Robert Wroth, in 1594.

Sir John Cope, knt. and bart., had the reversion of both the Wakerings, which were afterwards in the family of Higham, of Boreham, whose two co-heiresses were married, the one to John Tyrell, esq. of Hatfield Peverel, the other to Daniel Richardson. Mrs. Tyrell, surviving her sister, had the whole of this manor. The manor-house was near Palespit, at the entrance of the street. The courts are kept at Little Wakering-hall. Sir John Tyrell, bart. is lord of this manor.

The mansion of this manor is half a mile west from the church; the name in records is Berremera, and Villa de Berwe; the lands are very considerable, and extend into the parish of Little Wakering. Before the conquest it belonged to a Saxon

BARTON
Hall.

* "Ac rex restituit ei in feodo Manerium de Wakering ac Manerium de Wethersfeld, et diversa servicia, feoda militum, pro quibus Hugo remisit Roberto Walerand jus suum in Castr' et Maner' de Stoke Curcy, ac in Manerio de Wadwey; cum Hundredo de Harham, ac in diversis serviciis et feodis militum, xxxv. in scedula. Pat. 50, Hen. III."

BOOK II. named Phindac, and at the survey to Richard, son of earl Gislebert, or Gilbert. In 1289 it was in the possession of Gilbert Coleman, and belonged to William Barwe, who died in 1366, leaving James, his grandson, his heir. In 1374 it was holden by Maud, wife of John Coleman; and her son and heir was James de Barowe. It afterwards belonged to a family named Prittlewell, and was granted, with other estates, by John Prittlewell, to John Wakering,* Clerk, and others, which they, in 1407, conveyed to John Pyncherne; and it was granted to Thomas Pynchon and his wife Alice, in 1426, by Robert Warenor and others: in 1458 it passed from Thomas, son of Thomas Pynchon, to William Lawsell; and the same year was conveyed by Thomas Spenser to William Lawsell. It belonged to sir John Shaa, of Horndon, who died in 1503; whose son Edward, or Edmund, dying in 1532, left his only daughter, Alice, his heiress; who, by marriage, conveyed this estate to William Poley, esq. of the Poleys of Wormingford in Lexden; and it was sold by their descendant, William Poley, esq. in 1720, to Robert Surman, esq. deputy cashier of the South Sea Company; and on the forfeiture of his estates, in 1723, was sold to Samuel Rush, esq., from whom it passed to his descendants and heirs; and now belongs to sir William Rush, bart.

Adam's Fee A reputed manor, which comes up to the road from the church, has usually gone with Barrow-hall; having anciently belonged to Adam Fitz-Simon, it has been on that account named Adam's fee, and vulgarly Aldermans.

Lovetotes. A considerable estate, named Lovetotes, extends into the two Wakerings, and the parishes of Shopland, Great Stambridge, Little Shobery, Southchurch, Ley, Raleigh, Bemfleet, and Stamford; it was holden of the honour of Rayleigh. Its name is

* The parish gave name to this family, who resided here in the fourteenth century; John de Wakering living in the time of Edward the third, and Richard the second. He had two sons, William and John, of whom the latter was chancellor of the duchy of Lancaster. William, the eldest son, was the father of William; and of John, who was master of the rolls, and keeper of the privy seal, in the time of king Henry the fifth. William, the elder brother, and heir to the family estate, had two sons, named John, one of whom was archdeacon of Canterbury, and, in 1416, bishop of Norwich: he was one of the English divines who attended the council of Constance, was a benefactor to Bennet, or Corpus Christi, college, Cambridge, and of distinguished wisdom and learning. He had Canewdon, and other lands, in this county, and died in 1425. The other brother had the family mansion of Wakering place, which he sold, in 1427, to Robert Davey. His two sons were Ralph and John:—Ralph was the father of Richard, whose son, Edmund, by his first wife, Margaret, daughter of John Archer, had James; sir Gilbert Wakering, knt., who died in 1616; and Richard, who died in 1583. Edmund Wakering, by his second wife, had Ralph, father of Gilbert and John: his eldest son, James Wakering, lived at Kelvedon, and by Margaret, daughter of John Bird, had his son and heir, John, who was of Lincoln's inn, and Church hall, in Kelvedon, in 1634. By his wife, Mary, daughter and co-heiress of Dionysius Palmer, esq. of Felsted, he had Dionysius, and Mary, married to Thomas Wilcox, esq. of Tottenham. Dionysius Wakering, esq. the son and heir, was one of the representatives of this county in Oliver Cromwell's parliaments, for 1654 and 1656. His only daughter and heiress was Mary, married to Francis St. John, esq. Arms of Wakering: Azure, a pelican, or.

supposed from the family of Lovetote, and to be the carucate of land held by Walter de St. John in 1259; his son Walter died without issue, and Margery, his daughter, married to Edward Shardlow, conveyed to him this estate, which, in 1276, she joined with him in conveying to John de Lovetot. In 1310 it belonged to William de Brianzon, whose son John was his heir: it afterwards belonged to the family of Bluet.

The church is a good building, pleasantly situated in the street; it is dedicated to St. Nicholas, and has a nave and chancel, with a tower and spire. * Church.

This church was given to Bileigh abbey, near Maldon, and was a rectory in their gift till 1283, when Richard de Gravesend, bishop of London, by his act, dated at Copford, appropriated the great tithes to the abbey, reserving the collation of the vicarage to himself and successors, bishops of London, in whom it has continued to the present time.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to seven hundred and seventy-six, and in 1831, to eight hundred and thirty-four.

LITTLE WAKERING.

This parish extends northward from Great Waking to Barling. It belonged to Robert, son of Wimarce, after the death of Edward the Confessor; and at the time of the survey, to Suene, of Essex. There is only one manor. Little Waking.

The manor-house is near the church, on the north-east. The estate passed successively, as that of Great Waking did, to John de Nevill; to Humphrey de Bohun; Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex; Henry, his son, whose daughter, and heiress, Anne, was married to William Parr, marquiss of Northampton, under whom this manor was holden by Thomas Shaa in 1546: it afterwards passed into the family of Devereux, earls of Essex; and to Sir John Cope, &c., descending, as Great Waking, to John Tyrell, esq.; and the present lord of the manor is sir John Tyrell. Little Waking Hall.

The great tithes of this parish, with an estate including Shernewarles marsh, in the occupation of Francis Bannester, esq. belongs to St. Bartholomew's hospital.

The church is a small building, with a nave and chancel, dedicated to the Virgin Mary: on the entrance to the tower, ~~on the right hand~~ side of the belfry-door, are the arms of bishop Waking—a pelican, with a mitre in chief. Probably he was at the charge of building the tower. The arms of France, England, and Bohun, quarterly, appear on the opposite side. Church.

This church belonged to the ancient monastic institution of St. Bartholomew's hospital, near Smithfield, London, to which the rectory and great tithes were appropriated: on the dissolution these passed to the crown; and on the founding of the present hospital, by Henry the eighth, in 1546, he granted to it, among other things,

* There are alms-houses in this parish for six persons, but they are without endowment.

BOOK II. this rectory and advowson of the vicarage, with Shernewarles marsh, in this parish, to the mayor, commonalty, and citizens of London, governors of that hospital.

There is an arch in the north wall of the church, supposed for the effigies of the founder.

In 1821 this parish contained two hundred and sixty-two, and in 1831 two hundred and ninety-seven inhabitants.

BARLING.

Barling. This parish is on the north of the Wakerings, near a creek that communicates with the river from Rochford, and with Potten Island. It is distant from Rochford three miles, and from London forty-two.

In the time of Edward the Confessor this lordship belonged to the crown; and he gave it to the cathedral church of St. Paul's, in London; and at the survey it was found to belong to the canons of St. Paul's. There are two manors.

Barling Hall. This manor-house is half a mile north-east from the church: the estate, as formerly, belongs to St. Paul's cathedral, and is holden under them by J. G. Welch, esq. *

Mucking Hall. Mucking-hall is half a mile west from the church; it is named from John de Mockyng, who died here in 1362: it belonged to Robert Fitz-Symon, in the time of Edward the fourth; and to Thomas Wiseman in 1580; to Dionysius Palmer in 1630; to sir Francis St. John, bart., and, by the marriage of his daughter, became the property of sir John Bernard, bart. It now belongs to lady Eliza Bernard Sparrow.

Church. The church, dedicated to All Saints, is an ancient building, with a nave, chancel, and north aisle; and a tower and spire.

This rectory has belonged to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, from the reign of Edward the Confessor to the present time: they are not only patrons, but also ordinaries of this place, which is subject wholly to their peculiar jurisdiction.

In 1821 this parish contained two hundred and ninety-three, and in 1831 three hundred and seventeen inhabitants.

SHOPLAND.

Shopland. This small parish is surrounded by Barling, Sutton, Southchurch, and Pattewell: in records the name is written, Schopland, Scoland, Shopeland, Shupeland; in Domesday, Scopeland. In 1723, there were in this parish four farm houses, a

* In 1253, Henry de Cornwall, dean of St. Paul's, purchased a marsh of Radulphus Cementarius for ten marks. This marsh is included in the demesnes of the manor: and, in 1254, Absolon, son of Richard de la Weylate, gave lands in Barling to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's. In 1322 the church of St. Paul's came to a composition with Adam, son of Simon de Barling, whereby the said Adam, and his tenants, obliged themselves to raise a wall on his own grounds to keep out the inundation of the sea, or river, and a perch of wall upon the demesne lands of the dean and chapter; in consideration of which, he, and his heirs, were to have the entire profit of the fishery of the upper part of the stream for ever.

vicarage house, and one cottage; it had no alehouse, and paid no poor's rate: it contains no copyhold lands. Distant from Rochford two, and from London forty-two miles.

CHAP.
XVII.

Before the conquest, Scopeland belonged to a freeman, succeeded by Ingelric; and at the survey it was holden by Eustace, earl of Boulogne. There are two manors.

The chief manor house is near the church; the estate was holden under Robert Fitzwalter, by Philip de Cantelough, in the reign of king Edward the third. In 1289, it was holden by Henry le Waleys, of the barony of Boulogne: Walter Fitz-Robert, i. e. son of Robert the first of the Fitzwalter family, left it to his son Robert, lord Fitzwalter; and he invested in this possession, Robert de la Ward, who married his daughter Ida; in 1307, they jointly held it of the king, as of his honour of Boulogne: this Robert had by Ida, a daughter named Margaret, and by a former wife was the father of Joanna, married to Hugh de Meynill. In 1333, Hugh and Joanna held a moiety of this estate, yet are supposed to have died without issue: Ida was remarried to Hugh de Nevill, and at the time of her death, in 1361, held the whole of this manor, which was given to her by her father for life. Margaret was married to Thomas de Staple, esq., and, with him, held a moiety of this manor. After his death, in 1372, she was remarried to sir John Chanceaux, and died in 1389. The manor afterwards remained many years divided; a moiety of it was in possession of sir Thomas Darcy, who sold it to William Harris, Esq., in 1535; on whose death, in 1555, he was succeeded by his son William. In 1569, Christopher Harris died in possession of it; but it did not descend to his son Christopher. It was purchased by lord Rich in 1561; and after remaining in this family many years, the whole estate became the property of William Gillingham, of Kent, and afterwards of the Tyrell family.

Shopland
Hall.

This manor was originally a distinct hamlet; in records named Butlers-in-Shopland; and the manor and advowson of the church of Butlers. The mansion is on the right of the road, from Barling to the church. In 1261, William de Botyller died in possession of this estate; and his son Hugh was his heir, who died in 1279, whose son William, who died in 1328, left a son and heir named John, of whom no particulars are recorded. The estate was conveyed from Robert Maundesley to Thomas Burgoyne, and John Sygar in 1448; and passed from James Keloun and his wife Editha, to Hugh Oldham, bishop of Exeter, in 1504. Ralph, son of his brother John, was his heir. Lord Rich had this manor in 1562; and passing to his descendants, earls of Warwick, it was, on the partition of the family estates, purchased by Richard, lord viscount Castlemain, afterwards earl Tilney; and he sold it to his steward, Thomas Holt, esq., whose heir was his nephew, Thomas White, esq.: it now belongs to Mrs. Holt White.

Botyllers.

BOOK II.
Church.

The church is a small building, dedicated to the Virgin Mary: it has a nave and chancel.*

The vicarage being of small value, was for a considerable time held by sequestration. This church was given to the abbey of St. Osyth, to which the rectory being appropriated, a vicarage was ordained in the year 1237: these were retained by the abbot and convent till the dissolution; and they presented to the vicarage from 1550 to 1583.† Bishop Bonner had it in 1557, but it was taken from him by queen Elizabeth.

This parish, in 1821, contained thirty-four, and 1831, forty-eight inhabitants.

PAKELESHAM, OR PAGLESHAM.

Paglesham.

This parish is nearly surrounded by water, forming a kind of peninsula, having on the east the island of Walasea. In records, the name is written, Pachesham, Padesham, Pagesham, Pagglesham, Pakelesham, Paklesham, Patelesham; it is distant from Maldon sixteen, and from London, forty-three miles. There are four manors.

Church Hall.

This manor-house is near the east end of the church: the estate was given by Ingulph, to the church of St. Petre of Westminster, in 1066, and the grant was confirmed by Edward the Confessor.‡ That church held it at the time of the survey, and it retained possession till the dissolution of monasteries.

In 1368, William de Maldon held this manor of the abbot of Westminster, and was succeeded by John, his son or grandson, who held it till 1428, when it was conveyed to John Warner, esq. of Warner's hall, in Great Waltham, and it remained in his successors till it was conveyed by Henry Warner, in 1554, to Anthony Browne, esq. (afterwards Sir Anthony), who died in possession of it in 1567; as did also his great nephew, Wistan Browne, esq., in 1580: and John Browne, esq., the uncle, and next heir of Wistan, had this estate in 1585, in whose descendants and heirs it continued till it was sold by sir Anthony Browne, in 1661, to John Goldesburgh, of whom it was purchased by sir Francis St. John; and in 1772, belonged to John Butler, esq. of Warminghurst, in Sussex. Now in the occupation of Mr. Thomas Fisk.

East Hall and South Hall.

These two manors having been some time united in the same possessors, are therefore given together. The first of these was first named the manor of Paklesham, and Paklesham hall; and both were afterwards denominated east and south, as distinguished by their relative situations from the church, from which they are each of

* Some time ago there was a monument for Thomas Staple, "formerly serjeant-at-arms to our sovereign lord the king, who died the second day of March, in the year of grace 1371," with his arms; a saltier between staples. Also, in the western window, the arms of Botiller; sable, three covered cups.—*Heever's Fun. Mon.* Ed. 1763, p. 408.

† Newcourt, vol. ii. pp. 531, 532.

‡ Monast. Angl. vol. i. p. 61.

them distant half a mile. Two freemen held these lands before the conquest; and at the survey they belonged to William de Warren, and Robert, son of Corbutio. CHAP.
XVII.

In 1305, Ralph de Coggeshall died, holding the manor of Pakelesham of sir Drogo de Barentyne; John de Coggeshall was his son and successor in 1339, and died in 1361: Henry, his son, was his heir. In 1340, Hugh de Naunton held one of these manors, but which of them it was is not known. Sir Richard Sutton, in 1373, granted a moiety of Southall manor to Robert Fitzwilliam, of Nēwendon; and a portion of this estate was conveyed from John Fordham, esq. to Lewis John, esq., in 1417. These manors were soon after united in the possession of the Pakelesham family, and belonged to Thomas Pakelesham in 1438; and to Richard Pakelesham, who died in 1453. Thomas Bullen, earl of Wiltshire, had this estate, which he gave to Mary, his eldest daughter, married first to William Carey, esq., and afterwards to sir William Stafford: Henry Carey, afterwards lord Hunsdon, was her son and heir, and sold these manors to Richard lord Rich, who died possessed of them in 1566; and passing to his descendants and their heirs, became the property of Henry viscount Bolingbroke, who sold them to sir Francis St. John; from whom they descended to sir John Bernard, and to sir Robert Bernard, barts.

The name of this manor is from its situation, west from the church, from which it is a mile distant. This estate was the property of a freeman before the conquest, and at the survey belonged to Ralph Baynard: his son Geoffrey was the father of William Baynard, who forfeited his estates for joining in a conspiracy against king Henry the first; and they were given by that king to his steward, Robert, son of Richard Fitzgilbert, progenitor of the ancient earls of Clare, from whom descended the noble family of Fitzwalter. In 1214, Ralph de Genges held this estate under Robert Fitzwalter, as did also the heirs of Hugh de Bromford, in 1328. The families of Colt, Strangman, and Wiseman, of Great Badow hall, had this estate, which passed, as the last two manors, to sir Francis St. John, sir John Bernard, and sir Robert Bernard, barts. West
Hall.

The church is on low ground, with a nave and chancel, of one pace; it is dedicated to St. Peter. Church.

The rectory, with the capital manor, was given by the above-mentioned Ingulph to Westminster abbey; and on its conversion to a bishopric by Henry the eighth, in 1540, this estate became part of its endowment: but on the dissolution also of this institution, in 1550, Pakelsham rectory was granted by Edward the sixth to Nicholas Ridley, bishop of London, and his successors; this grant was confirmed to bishop Bonner, by queen Mary, in 1553, whose successors have retained possession to the present time.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to three hundred and ninety-six, and to four hundred and fifty in 1831.

BOOK II.

CANEWDON.

Cane-
w-
don.

This parish, bounded on the north by the river Crouch, joins to Pagelsham on the south-east. In records, the name is written Cannedon, Canodon, Canvedon, Canvidon, Canudon; Canwedon, and Carendon. The Danes are known to have much infested these parts, and the supposed derivation of this name is from some chief of those barbarians, whose habitation was here.* The parish is twenty miles in circumference, and contains nearly five thousand acres of excellent land. The village is very pleasantly situated on high ground, with a beautiful and expansive prospect over the country. There is a fair here on the 24th of June. Distant from Rochford four, and from London, forty-one miles.

This lordship is believed to have belonged to Suene before the conquest, as no former owner is mentioned in Domesday. It has been divided into five manors.

Cane-
w-
don Hall.

This ancient mansion is on the north-side of the church, and has been formerly strongly fortified, and doubly trenched. In 1289, it was holden of the king by John de Cancellis, or Chanceaux,† and his wife Joane;—the latter held it during her widowhood, and dying in 1306, was succeeded by her son, sir Charles Chanceux, who died in 1317. John Chanceux, his son and heir, had this estate, and a marsh, named le Norde, with other lands in Paklesham, Rochford, Wakering, and Hockley. There is no connected account of the succeeding proprietors of this family; Margery, wife of sir John de Chanceaux, died in 1389, holding this manor, and the manor of Pudsey, in this parish. In 1485, Thomas Darcy died possessed of this estate, which

* The Saxon Chronicle, p. 143—151, informs us that Suene, and his son Canute, were actively engaged in this part of the country; and Weever, in his Funeral Monuments, p. 408, observes of this place, “it was so called from king Canutus, the Dane, who kept his court here; qu. Canuti domus.” But allowing the very probable supposition of the Danish origin of the first part of this name, it can scarcely be doubted that the latter is from the Saxon *donn*, a hill. The Romans, undoubtedly, had a station here; for in 1712, in a field near the hall, twelve urns were found; and, in the following year, eighteen more were dug up: they were so tender that only two could be preserved entire. One was nearly six inches in diameter; the other exceeded that measure. One of them contained ashes, and fragments of bones; the rest were filled with earth. These vessels differed from each other in their forms, size, colour, and the figures with which they were ornamented. This account is from the writings of the rev. George Wheatley, curate here in 1721, a learned person, intimately acquainted with the Saxon language: he translated “Gregory’s Pastoral” into English, from king Alfred’s version. Many urns of various kinds were also found here, some time ago, by the rev. Thomas Pocock, rector of Danbury. They lay on a stratum of gravel, about eighteen inches below the surface.

† The supposed ancestor of this family came in with William the Conqueror, and was of Chauncy, or Chanceau, near Amiens, in Picardy. The name appears in the roll of Battle abbey. Sir Henry Chauncy, of Herefordshire, the learned author of the history and antiquities of that county, was of this family.

his son Roger held at the time of his decease in 1508; and his son Thomas sold it, with other lands here, to Thomas Armiger, esq., in 1553, who, on his death in 1558, left Thomas, his son, his heir. CHAP.
XVII.

In 1727, sir Nathan Wright, bart. of Cranham hall, died holding this possession, which his widow retained till her death, in 1741, and which sir Nathan's only daughter and heiress conveyed by marriage to general Oglethorp.

The manor-house of this estate is a mile south-west from the church: its name is derived from, or gave the surname to, the family of de Apeton. • William de Apeton died in possession of it in 1269, succeeded by John, his son, and William, his grandson; and another John Apeton, who died in 1321; John was his son and heir. Successive possessors were, Thomas de Staple, esq., of Shopland, in 1372; Roger Darcy, in 1508; sir Thomas and Geoffrey Darcy, in 1550; and the widow, Anne Darcy, in 1558, who left Thomas, son of Geoffrey, her heir. It was sold in 1583, by Edward Dier, esq. to Thomas Smith; and belonged to sir Arthur Harris, who died in 1631, leaving sir Cranmer Harris, his son, his heir. The next possessor of this estate was Mr. Joseph Fishpool, of Billericay, whose descendant, John Fishpool, of the same place, and owner of this estate, was sheriff of Essex in 1749. Apton
Hall.

The mansion of this estate is a mile south from the church. According to Weever,* Scottys. this manor was formerly named Breamstōn, which was probably from John de Brianzon, possessed of it in 1320, and who left Bartholomy, his son, his heir. It afterwards belonged to the family of Tyrell, of Beeches, in Raureth; with whom it remained till Edward, son of Jasper Tyrell, dying in 1574 without male issue, his co-heiresses were his four daughters; of whom Thomasine was married first to William, second son of sir Henry Tyrell, and afterwards to William Playters, esq., of Sotterley, in Suffolk, who had this manor in her right. She died in 1578; and he in 1584, leaving Thomas Playters, his son and heir; and he in 1598 conveyed it to — Cannon, of Rettenden, who had possession of it in 1598. In 1616 it belonged to John Scott, whose son William was his heir. It afterwards belonged to Alderman Kiffin, of London, who sold it to John Evans, esq., of Wanledge, in Wiltshire, who settled it on his daughter Eleanor, wife of John Lance, of the Inner Temple, and on her children after her death; who sold it to Nehemiah Bennet, merchant of London, of whom it was purchased by the rev. Thomas Juson, rector of Wansted; who on his death, in 1750, left by his wife Katherine, the rev. Thomas Juson, his son and heir. †

This manor-house is a mile south-east from the church, on the border of the marshes near Wallasea Island. The estate is believed to be what belonged to Robert Lamborn
Hall.

* Fun. Mon., ed. 1766, p. 408.

† It appears, by the court rolls, that this manor has held courts-leet, as well as courts-baron. The lord of Scotty's hall is one of those concerned in the Lawless or Whispering court.

BOOK II. de Lamborne, of Lamborn, in Ongar, from the year 1199 to 1213: it belonged to William de Lamborne, who died in 1800, and was succeeded by James, his son and heir. There is no further account of the possessors of this estate till the time of Henry the seventh; when it belonged to Thomasine, daughter of John^{*} Barrington, esq., of Rayleigh; who was succeeded by her son, William Lunsford, or Lonsworth, as it is in the Inquisition: he died in 1531, and left John, his son, his heir.* It afterwards belonged to Henry Campion, esq.

Pudsey
Hall.

Pudsey-hall is near the river Crouch, half a mile west from the church. In the time of Edward the Confessor this hamlet and lordship was in the possession of two freeman; in Domesday, is named Putsea, and holden by Suene, whose under-tenants were named Ascelin and John; the name of this place is also written Podehele, Podeseth, Potesthete, Pudshall, and Pudsithe. The de Veres, earls of Oxford, were the lords paramount of this manor, which was holden under them in 1322, by John Chanceaux, and was retained by his descendants till the decease of Margery Chanceaux, in 1389, when the estate passed to Thomas Darcy, whose grandson, Thomas Darcy, esq. conveyed it, in 1554, to Bartholomew Averel, esq., on whose death, in 1562, his three daughters were his co-heiresses; Mary, the wife of John Sammes; Grace; and Elizabeth, married to Edward Waldegrave, esq. of Lawford. Afterwards it belonged to sir Samuel Moyer, created a baronet in 1701, and styled of Pudsey hall. In 1772, it belonged to John Luther, esq., M. P.

Loftmans.

The estate and capital mansion of Loftmans, or Loughmans, formerly reckoned a manor, was purchased by Mr. Jeremiah Kesterman, in 1746, and belongs to his descendants. Lieut.-Colonel Kesterman resides here with the family.

Acres-fleet is called a manor in records; it lies in Wallasea Island, but belongs to this parish.

Church.

The church is on a hill of considerable height, and has a nave and north aisle, which measure in breadth thirty-six feet, and in length sixty-two; the chancel, and a chapel on the north side of it, measure in length thirty-six, and in breadth nineteen feet. The steeple rises to the height of seventy-four feet, and contains five tunable bells. It is dedicated to St. Nicholas.†

* Arms of Lunsford: Azure, a chevron between three boars, or bears, heads coupé, or.

† In the south window is an escutcheon; argent, a chevron between three annulets, gules. The same is also carved on the pillars that support the north aisle. The arms of France and England, quarterly; and also shields of the arms of Bohun, Mowbray, and Warren.

When this church was beautified, in 1711, a figure of St. Christopher was found, which had been covered over.

Inscrip-
tion.

A Latin inscription informs us, that "Here lies lord John Chanceaux, a warrior, who died Feb. 8, — Also, Thomas Chanceux, esq. who died October —."

Charities.

The following charitable donations are recorded here:—A messuage, with forty acres of land, in Southminster, called Podds, or Capels, known by the name of Conyndon lands.—A messuage, and six acres of

This church was given to Prittlewell priory by the founder, Robert de Essex, son of Suene, as appears by the following record:—In 1241, a *quo warranto* was brought against the prior, to show by what authority he held the advowson of Canewdon church, parcel of the lands of Henry de Essex, escheated to the king? He answered, that his right was confirmed by Henry the second, the king's grandfather; and he produced the charter of Henry de Essex, of Gilbert Foliot, bishop of London, and of Giles de Chanceux; in the year 1231, the prior and convent empowered Roger Niger, bishop of London, to ordain a vicarage; which he did, and endowed it well, reserving the nomination of the vicar to himself and his successors, bishops of London. In 1587, it was granted by queen Elizabeth to Edward Downing, and Miles Dodding, from whom the great tithes passed to other proprietors; but the presentation to the vicarage has continued in the bishop of London. There is a glebe of sixty acres.

In 1821, this parish contained seven hundred and thirty-two; and in 1831, six hundred and seventy-five inhabitants.

This is the larger of two parishes, between Rochford and Pakelsham, formerly united: in records, the name is Stanbruge, Stamberg, Stambreg, Stambrugg, supposed from an ancient stone bridge over the small river, that passes by Rochford. The village is near a stream, above Potten Island. It is two miles from Rochford, and forty from London. Before the conquest, Oswald and a freeman had the lands of this parish; and at the survey, they belonged to Odo, bishop of Bayeaux, whose under tenants were Suene and Wiard. They were divided into three manors.

The mansion of this manor is eastward from the church, near the river; the estate passing from the grandson of Suene to the crown, it afterwards belonged to Richard Fitzwilliam, under whom it was holden by the ancient family of

pasture and meadow, in this parish, called ~~Byrdene~~ Finch's lands, containing forty acres, in Canewdon, given to the poor by Agnes Finch, widow.—Two acres, called Spylfrenches, given to the poor by William Hawshill and Thomas Hawkins, in 1495.—Edward's lands, in Canewdon, containing twenty-five acres.—Cuppolds, or Cuckingstole Croft, *alias* Lamp Crofts, given for the support of a light in the church.—The rents of these estates are given to the poorest of Canewdon of good name and fame. Richard Wood, of Scaldhurst, in the hamlet of Pudsey, gave, after his wife's death, in 1688, all his real and personal estate, to purchase lands, the rents of which should be employed to find bread for the poor.—Lands belonging to — Brogrove, esq. of Norwich, are charged with fifty-two pounds, two shillings, payable to the vicar, to be given to the poor. These were originally given by William Totham.—Anciently a fraternity of St. Anna had an estate for lamps and lights; the overplus given in beans and herrings to poor people, in Lent.—The Poor's land, in Wigan, is a considerable estate in Pudsey, which belongs to the poor of Wigan, in Lancashire.

BOOK II. **Musters,*** in the time of king John. William, son of Richard Fitzwilliam, on his death, in 1260, left his only daughter, Margery, his heiress, who was married to Richard de Tany, of the family of that name, of Stapleford Tany. Richard de Tany, his son and heir, died in 1296.† In 1298, Henry de Grapenell died, holding this estate of the king by knight's service. Petronilla, Margery, Joanna, and Margaret, his daughters, were his co-heiresses, of whom Petronilla, the eldest, was the wife of John Fitzjohn; and Joanna was married to Adam Fitzjohn. Petronilla Fitzjohn, to her second husband, had sir John Bensted, who in her right held this estate, at the time of his death, in 1323. He was of Higham Bensted in Walthamstow; and his descendants retained this possession till it was conveyed by William Bensted, esq., in 1490, to Thomas Stillington, who died in 1491. It belonged to Francis Clopton, esq., in 1544; to sir John Shaa, alderman of London, who died in 1503; and was sold by Thomas Shaa, esq. to Thomas Ive, gent. of East Donyland, in 1579. It belonged to Robert Lawson, esq. at the time of his death, in 1587; and in 1604 was sold by Thomas Lawson to Thomas Sutton, esq. founder of the Charterhouse, who settled this estate upon that foundation, to which it now belongs.‡

Hampton
Barnes.

The mansion of this manor is in the marshes, near the creek, half a mile from the road to Paklesham: it is believed to have been taken from what belonged to Odo, about the time of king Richard the third: it was holden by William Lawsel, who died in 1485; and in 1549, it was conveyed from Richard Townshend to Richard Smart, of Ipswich; who was succeeded by his son William. It afterwards belonged to Mr. Scratton, of Bromfield.

Breton,
or Barton
Hall.

This manor is part of what Wiard held under Suene, at the survey; the house is on the south-side of the channel. It was holden by Hugh Brito, by knight's service, and has retained his name. In 1337, Robert Rochford died in possession of it; and in 1379, it belonged to Joane, countess of Hereford: in 1526, it was conveyed by sir Thomas Darcy to John Lucas, esq., from whom it passed, in 1550, to Bartholomew Averill, on whose death, in 1562, he left his three daughters, Mary, Grace, and

* Arms of Musters: Gules, on a bend or, a lion passant, of the field, within a bordure, erailed, argent.

† Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 509.

‡ Southminster, Cold Norton, Stambridge, Little Hallingbury, with Little Wigborough manors, were all disafforested, by letters patent of king Charles the first, in 1638, for which privilege the governors of the Charterhouse gave five hundred pounds; and in the court, kept 4th October, 1670, before Albery de Vere, earl of Oxford, chief justice of the king's forests, the governors of the Charterhouse claimed within this manor, court leet, and view of frank pledge of all their tenants, dwelling and residing within the precincts of the same; and fines and amerciaments, and other profits; assize of bread, and other victuals; wine, beer, &c.; the examination of weights and measures; choice of constables and other officers; pillory, tumbrel, and gallows; sufficient fire-bote, house-bote, cart-bote, for the tenants of the manor in their own woods, without view of the foresters.

Elizabeth, his co-heiresses; and the last of these married to Edward Waldegrave, esq. of Lawford, conveyed to him this estate: it belonged to John Gleane, esq. of Harwick-hall, who died in 1670; and was purchased by sir Isaac Shaarde, knt. and descended to his son, sir Abraham Shaarde, who died in 1746. CHAP. XVII.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is pleasantly situated on rising ground: it has a nave and south aisle, separated by plain large pillars of ancient appearance. It has a tower and wooden spire.* Church.

The inhabitants of this parish, in 1821, amounted to four hundred and one, and in 1831, to four hundred and five.

LITTLE STANBRIDGE.

This parish extends northward from Great Stanbridge. It is about two miles from Rochford, and forty from London. Before, and at the time of the survey, a part of these lands were appropriated to the maintenance of the monks of the church of the Holy Trinity, in Canterbury; and another part, in the reign of Edward the Confessor, had belonged to a freeman, from whom it was unjustly taken by Tedric Pointel. The whole was divided into two manors. Little Stan-bridge.

The manor-house of Little Stanbridge is near the west-end of the church. Ralph Baignard held this manor of the church of the Holy Trinity; and his grandson, William, joining the enemies of king Henry the first, was deprived of it on that account; after which, that king gave it to Richard Fitzgilbert, lord of Brionne, in Normandy.† It was holden of John Fitzjohn, by John de Kokeham, who died in 1275; and whose heir, Lawrence de Hardel, died in 1285. The next possessor was Bartholomew de Baddlesmere, a nobleman of Kent, who was beheaded in 1322.‡ It was holden by his son and heir, Giles de Baddlesmere, who, dying without issue, left his four sisters his co-heiresses, who had this estate divided among them: Maud was the wife of John de Vere, seventh earl of Oxford; Elizabeth was married, first to Edmund de Mortimer, and afterwards to William de Bohun, earl of Northampton; Margaret, wife of sir John Tipetot; and Margery, wife of William, lord Roos.§ In 1372, sir Robert, son of sir John Tibetot, died possessed of this manor, which he held of the king, except a third part of it, which was holden of sir Walter Fitzwalter, by the service of a pair of gilt spurs. Margaret, Milicent, and Elizabeth, were his daughters; the two eldest married to Roger and Stephen, second and third sons of Richard Scroope, lord-treasurer of England; and Elizabeth, to Philip le Despenser. Sir Philip le Despenser, who died in 1424, had this estate, which he left to his only Little Stan-bridge Hall.

* There is an epitaph, in the chancel, to the memory of Mr. John Gleane, owner of the manor of Barton-hall.

† Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 461.

‡ Ibid. vol. ii. p. 58.

§ Ibid. p. 40.

BOOK II. daughter, Margery, first married to John, lord Roos, and afterwards to sir Roger Wentworth. She died, possessed of this manor, in 1478, and was succeeded by her grandson, Henry Wentworth, the son of her son Philip. It afterwards belonged successively to sir Richard Wentworth, who died in 1528, and to his son, sir Thomas, of Nettlested, in Suffolk, who was afterwards created baron Wentworth. It afterwards belonged to John Cocke, who died in 1574. Micajah Perry, esq., a Virginia merchant, had this possession: he died, aged eighty, and upwards, and was succeeded by Micajah Perry, esq., his grandson, alderman of London, and lord mayor in 1739, and member of parliament for that city in 1727 and 1734; his son, Richard, was his successor.* This manor now belongs to the hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley.

Church. The church is a small ancient building; the nave and chancel of one pace: the arms of Bohun appear in the window of the belfry.

The rectory anciently belonged to the manor, and was presented to by Bartholomew de Baddlesmere; and by his widow, Margaret Dumfrunvill, lady de Baddlesmere in 1328 and 1333. By Elizabeth, one of his daughters, married to Edmund de Mortimer, it came into the Mortimer family. Richard Nevil, duke of York, presented in 1434 and 1445. On his being slain at the battle of Wakefield, in 1460, his second son, Edward, earl of March, afterwards king Edward the fourth, inherited this with his other possessions; and it has since that time remained in the crown.†

The number of inhabitants in this parish, in 1821, was one hundred, and in 1831, one hundred and five.

ASSINGDON.

This small parish is north from Hawkswell, and north by west from Rochford. The name, in records, is written Assingden, Assindon, Assandum. The village is small. Distant from Rochford three, and from London forty-one miles.‡

* Arms of Perry: Quarterly, or and sable, on a bend gules two lions passant, gardant, argent, cotised ermine. On an inescutcheon sable, a chevron between three fleur de luces argent. Crest. On a close helmet, an hind's head erased proper, in its mouth a bunch of pears or, the branch vert.

† Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 542.

‡ Camden supposes the great battle between Canute and Edmund Ironside to have been fought here; other writers suppose it to have been at Ashdon, near Bartlow. "Nothing is more surprising," observes Gough, in his Additions to Camden, "than the error all antiquaries have hitherto lain under with respect to the scene of the battle between Edmund Ironside and the Danes. Though they had the authority of Mr. Camden against them, they have carried it quite across the country to the northern extremity, as far from the sea as possible, and in defiance of every circumstance that could fix it there. In a marsh in Woodham Mortimer parish, on the Chelmsford side of the river Burnham or Crouch, are twenty-four barrows grouped in pairs, and most of them surrounded by a ditch. At Canewdon, which Weever was for rendering Canuti domus, is the Danish camp. Hocklie on the hill, on the other side of

This lordship belonged to Saene, at the survey, and afterwards passed to the same families as Hawkswell. Very little occurs, in records, relative to it. There are two manors, which extend into other parishes.

CHAP.
XVII.

Assingdon-hall, the manor-house, is near the church. Laurence de Hardel, who died in 1285, held lands here, of Philip Mansel, by the service of a garland of roses: Nicholas Mansel was his son. In 1340, Reginald Garrey, and in 1372, sir Robert Tibetot, had possessions here, which belonged to Little Stanbridge. An estate, named Beckney, in Assingdon, Hockley and South Fambridge, is supposed to be this manor. It is mentioned, in the record, as holden of the prior of Colnes, by fealty, by Richard Allen, who died in 1517, and by his son John. The manor of "Beckney, with appertenances, in Assindon, South Fambridge, Hockley, and Sutton, was holden of lord Rich, as of the honour of Rayleigh, by William Harrys, esq., who died in 1555, and was succeeded by his son and heir, William, the father of Christopher Harrys, esq., of Shenfield, who, dying in 1570, was succeeded by his son of the same name, who died in 1571; and whose brother, sir William Harrys, had this estate at the time of his death, in 1634, and left his cousin, Christopher, his heir." It now belongs to the hon. W. T. L. P. Wellesley.

Assine-
don Hall.

The church is a small building of apparent antiquity, dedicated to St. Michael: formerly there was an arch between the nave and chancel, and it has a tower of stone. The hill on which this church is situated, commands a pleasant view over the country, including the whole of Dengey hundred, as far as Maldon.

Church.

This church, and that of Hawkswell, were united in 1429, but were soon afterwards again separated.

There was formerly an image in this church, which, in superstitious times, was of high celebrity for the miracles said to have been performed by it.*

In 1821, this parish contained ninety-seven, and in 1831, ninety-eight inhabitants.

SOUTH FAMBRIDGE.

The river Crouch separates this parish from North Fambridge, in the hundred of Dengey; an ancient bridge, and the froth or foam of the passing stream, is the

South
Fam-
bridge.

the river, has the memorial of slaughter in its name from Haccan, cædere; the church is supported by the ancient massive round pillars, and in the parish is a very large single barrow. Battle Bridge, four miles lower down, may have taken its name from this action, though Hull Bridge (now only a ford and ferry, the piles remaining in the river) is close to the marsh where the barrows are. The Danes had been hovering about this neighbourhood for twenty years before. They probably landed at Bradwell. How much more obvious the resemblance between Assandune and Assingdon, than between Assandune and Ashdown; not to mention that Simeon Dunelmensis expressly says, Canute and Turkil built the church in monte que Assandune dicitur! This is the exact situation of Hocklie church: but is it so of that at Bartlow?

* Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 19.

BOOK II. supposed origin of the name, which, in Domesday, is written Phenbrudge. Distant from Rochford three, and from London thirty-nine miles.

This lordship was given to the monastery of Ely, by Edward the Confessor; but the Conqueror had taken it from that appropriation, and it was holden under him by Rainald Balistarius, at the time of the survey. There is only one manor.

South
Fam-
bridge
Hall.

The mansion is about half a mile north from the church, on rising ground. In 1166, the monks had regained this possession, which was holden of Nigel, bishop of Ely, by Reginald de Fambridge. In 1286, Bartholomew de Brianson died, holding this estate of the inheritance of Joane, his wife: William was his son and heir, and died in 1310; and it continued in his family for some time, till it was conveyed to William de Bohun, earl of Northampton, who died in 1360, holding it of the bishop of Ely. In 1395, this estate was appropriated to the college of Pleshey, founded by Thomas of Woodstock; and on the dissolution of religious houses, was granted, by Henry the eighth, to John Gate, esq., on whose trial and condemnation, in the affair of Lady Jane Grey, this, and his other estates, passed to the crown, and was, in 1560, granted, by queen Elizabeth, to Peter Osborn, esq., in whose family it continued through many generations, till sir Danvers Osborn* sold it to John Stevenson, esq., who married the daughter of Jonathan Forward, of London.

Church. The church is a small low building, dedicated to All Saints; it is half a mile from the ferry.

The population of this parish in 1821, amounted to one hundred and seven, and to ninety-one in 1831.

* The family of Osborn are said to have come from the northern part of the country: in 1442, Peter Osborn resided at Purley, in Essex. Richard was his son; whose son Richard was seated at Tyled hall, in Latchingdon; of his two sons, Peter, born in 1521, was distinguished for his learning and superior understanding, and his activity and zeal in promoting the Reformation. He was keeper of the privy purse to king Edward the sixth, who granted him and his heirs the office of treasurer's remembrancer, in the Exchequer. He was the friend of sir John Cheke, who died at his house. In the reign of queen Elizabeth he was one of the high commissioners for ecclesiastical affairs. His son, sir John Osborn, knt. was treasurer's remembrancer, and commissioner of the navy, in the reign of king James the first. He married Dorothy, daughter of Richard Barlow, esq. of Elsenham, by whom he left four sons; Francis, the youngest, was the author of *Essays, or Miscellanies*, in which was included his "*Advice to a Son*." Sir John Osborn, knt. settled at the nunnery of Chicksands, in Bedfordshire, and died in 1628. Sir Peter, his eldest son, was twenty-eight years governor of Guernsey. By his wife, Dorothy, daughter of sir John Danvers, of Dauntzey, in Wiltshire, he had seven sons and two daughters, of whom the eldest son, sir John, was the first baronet of the family: creation, in 1660. He was of the privy chamber to king Charles the second; and also treasurer's remembrancer. He married Allianor Danvers, of Dauntzey, and dying in 1699, was succeeded by his only son, sir John Osborn, bart. who by his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of William Stroud, esq. of Barrington, in Somersetshire, had John; and by his second wife, Martha, daughter of sir John Kelyng, had seven sons and four daughters. John, the eldest son, married Sarah, daughter of George lord Torrington, and died in 1719, in his father's life-time, leaving a son, who succeeded his grandfather, as sir Danvers Osborn, in 1720.

FOULNESS ISLAND.

CHAP.
XVII.

This island, which is also a parish, is the largest of six islands, which occupy the eastern extremity of the hundred. The name, in records, is Fughelness, Foulness,* and more anciently, *edulpneffe*. It is computed to be above twenty miles in circumference, exclusive of the Saltings, which are not embanked from the sea; and is reckoned to contain about four thousand five hundred acres of land.† There is a fair here on the 10th of July. Distant five miles from Rochford, and forty-four from London.

Foulness.

The manor-house is near the church; the estate anciently belonged to Suene, from whose grandson, passing to the crown, it was granted, with the honour of Rayleigh, to Hubert de Burgh; and his son, John, gave it to Guy de Rochford, from which time it commonly went with the manor of Rochford. Sir Guy died in 1274, and John Rochford, his nephew, son of his sister Maud, was his heir, who on his decease, in 1309, was succeeded by his son Robert. In 1343, William de Bohun, earl of Nottingham, had this estate; on whose decease, in 1360, it passed to his son, Humphrey de Bohun; succeeded by his sister Alianor, married to Thomas of Woodstock; on whose murder it passed to the crown, and was afterwards granted, by king Henry the sixth, to James, earl of Ormond; from whom it was conveyed to the families of Bullen, Stafford, Rich; and to the female heirs of the earl of Warwick, one of whom conveyed it in marriage to the right hon. Daniel, earl of Nottingham, from whom it has descended to his posterity. The present owner of this estate and manor is George Finch, esq., son of the late earl.

Foulness
Hall.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, St. Thomas the Martyr, and All Saints, is near the middle of the island: originally it was only a chapel, the island at that time not being a parish, but the tithes payable to Rochford, Sutton, Little Wakering, Shopland, Little Stanbridge, and Eastwood; the first inhabitants having been derived from these parishes.

Church.

The chapel, which formerly occupied the site of the present erection, was presented to by lady Joane de Bohun in 1386, and from that time by lords of the manor: it being slenderly provided for, and the curate not often resident, a chantry was founded and endowed by the said Joane, countess of Hereford. The chantry priest was to perform all offices for the inhabitants, who, on account of the overflowing tides, were

* Believed to be so named from the promontory, or point of land, named Foulness Point.—Camden's "Brit. in Essex." See also Norden's "Speculum Britannia."

† The island is divided into nineteen farms. Dr. Fuller informs us, that, in 1648, an army of mice, nesting in ant-hills, shaved off the grass at the bare roots, which withering to dung, was infectious to cattle. The March following, numbers of owls flew hither and destroyed them.—*Worthies in Essex*, p. 348.

BOOK II. frequently prevented from resorting to their respective parish churches. The glebe was then settled, and the chaplain was to have all the tithes, oblations, and spiritual profits, formerly paid to other parishes: these arrangements were by authority of Richard Giffard, bishop of London, and with the consent of all parties concerned. The right of patronage of this chantry was in the archbishop, the countess, and the lord of the manor, or island of Foulness: they all presented, jointly, in 1408;* and successive lords presented, to the year 1547. On the dissolution of chantries, this chapel was made a rectory; presented to as such in 1554, and so continued to the present time.

Daniel, earl of Nottingham, improved this rectory, by annexing to it the great tithes of Braintree.

The population of Foulness, in 1821, amounted to five hundred and fifty-five, and to six hundred and thirty, in 1831.

WALLASEA.

Wallasea. This island lies between Paklesham and the river Crouch; and having been joined to the firm land by a causeway, may now with propriety be reckoned a peninsula; it is about four miles in length and in breadth, where broadest a mile and half. Its name is, undoubtedly, from its embankments or sea-walls, which secure it from inundation. It has been vulgarly named, Wallet and Wallis. It is in the occupation of Mr. Hickingbotham.

Acresfleet Marsh This estate was formerly reckoned a manor, and belonged, in 1395, to sir Henry Grey, of Wilton; afterwards to his widow, Elizabeth; and in 1441, to his son, sir Richard Grey. In 1577, it belonged to sir Francis Jobson, and afterwards to Thomas Crush, of Roxwell.

Gore Marsh Gore marsh formerly belonged to sir Henry Featherstone. Other estates are, Ringwood marsh, Castle marsh, Sherwood's marsh, Tile-barn marsh. These six marshes pay tithe to Canewdon, of which parish they form a part.

Pool Marsh Pool marsh contains 500 acres, the property of the Western family. This and Tillet's marsh belong to Great Staunbridge; and Hilly marsh and West Grapnel's marsh, belong to Paglesham; Cockley-lay, or Cocksey-lay, belongs to Little Wakering; and Coker's marsh was so named, from Mr. Ralph Coker, of Woodham-Mortimer, to whom it formerly belonged; it was the property of Prittlewell priory; and after the dissolution, was granted to Bishop Bonner, who gave it in marriage with his daughter to — Perkins, esq. This estate is in Eastwood parish.

Potten island lies south from Wallasea; it contains a farm of six hundred acres, arable and pasture, called Great Potten. This estate belongs to lord Henniker. CHAP. XVII.

There is also a farm here, called Little Potten, now occupied by George Vanderlee, esq. Potten Island.

Havengore extends south-east to the sea, near Orwell-Beacon, occupied by James Tabor, esq.: it is the property of lady Olivia Bernard Sparrow. Haven-gore, &c.

Sharpsness, is an estate here belonging to Mr. Knapping.

New England is a small island, partly the property of Mr. Christopher Parsons, the occupier, and part of it belonging to St. Bartholomew's hospital.

Rushley Island contains something more than two hundred acres: it is in the occupation of the proprietor, Francis Bannester, esq. *

Arthur Young, esq. on his survey of these islands, about twenty years ago, speaks of the soil of Foulness as the richest in the county:—"The whole was (he observes) forty years ago under water, and no corn got for two years; but after that the crops greater than ever, so as to furnish an effectual proof that the water did good, after being chastened and corrected by the atmosphere. This saline quality is entangled in a peculiar loamy substance, very different from what is found in upland countries. The richest soils in such, are composed, in a great measure, of sand mixed with a portion of clay, and very friable where the sand predominates. But with the soil of Foulness, the case is different; for whatever friableness it possesses, seems to be owing to a fermentative power, arising from the action of the atmosphere on a body abounding with mucilaginous particles. It falls when exposed to the vicissitudes of weather into dies, and is more like the crystallized forms of mud drying in the sun, than the crumbling looseness of common loams. There is very little appearance of any sand in it; the particles are so fine, that it might be expected to become an impalpable powder; but, on the contrary, it is capable of such adhesion that a clod will become very hard; crumbled in the hand, it yields a strong scent, indicating the presence of volatile alcali. The fertility of it is so great, that the farmers are very little attentive to dung; nor do they commonly venture it for any sort of corn, for it throws up much straw without any improvement of the crop. If, however, they laid it on for beans, I should suppose this would not be the case. I must observe, on this natural excellence of the soil, that it is perfectly unattainable by art; the great laboratory of nature in this, as in so many other cases, leaves the utmost skill of the chemical farmer at an infinite distance. I often see crops of as great, and sometimes of a greater bulk than those of Foulness, the straw longer, and the field seemingly as much loaded; but

There are several oyster-layings belonging to this island; and in the creeks on all the neighbouring isles, the native Wallfleet oysters are bred for the supply of the London market. Not more than one-tenth of the lands of these islands are used for pasturage, with the exception of Leigh marsh, which is entirely pasture land. The average annual produce of wheat is twenty-eight bushels per acre.

BOOK II. when this is the result of art, the product in grain is not answerable, and even turns out sometimes comparatively mean; mildews seize it, or the least rain beats it to the ground; but when the luxuriance, or health of it, is the result of natural fertility, the plants are not subject to be beaten down; the mildew is far less fatal; the ears are numerous, long, and well filled; and a bulk equal to the eye is far more productive in corn. This great inferiority will always be found by those who attempt to raise great crops of wheat by means of rich manuring, which, in fact, ought rather to be applied to beans, turnips, cabbages, &c. No hollow draining (land ditching) is done in the island, but much water furrowing. The west part is the stiffest land, from a mixture of clay; the eastern side is the lightest, and the centre of the island is the best land. It is also to be remarked, that between wet and dry, the soil sticks to the plough very much. When dry, it has a pale light-coloured surface, almost white; a near resemblance to the soil of Fleg, in Norfolk, and the impalpable loams of Tendring.*

The great drawback upon these advantages, has, till of late times, been the total want of fresh water, which produced inconvenience and unhealthiness to men and cattle; but this evil has been completely removed by the persevering exertions of Francis Bannester, esq. the owner of Rushley Island, who has discovered, under the sea, an inexhaustible reservoir of pure water, which may be made to supply ever-running streams for the use of these, and the other islands of this coast.

The following interesting account of this greatly important undertaking, is extracted from a letter, addressed by Mr. Bannester to the editor of this work:—

Discovery
of water.

“The island being in my own occupation, I had long felt the want of a supply of good water, having none for the use of the inhabitants or stock but what was obtained in rainy seasons, and which in hot dry weather became stagnant and extremely unwholesome, causing much sickness and loss. This inconvenience was also severely felt by the surrounding islands, which amount, in extent, to not less than ten thousand acres of land; and, although an attempt was made about fifty years ago by the late Mr. Francis Bannester (whose property Rushley was), to obtain water by boring, without success, and similar experiments, in Foulness and Canvey islands had also more recently failed, I still felt convinced of the possibility of obtaining water by this means; and determined upon making the attempt, although success was deemed impracticable by many of my neighbours; and on the 2d day of April, 1828, I began the work. In the first twenty-two feet from the surface, I found a stiff blue and very hard dry clay; and below that a quicksand, which consisted of gravel, sand, cockle, oyster, and muscle shells, with a great body of salt water, and had every appearance of having formerly been a sea-shore. This continued about the depth of

* Young's Agricultural Survey of Essex, vol. i. p. 15.

sixteen feet; and I was obliged to use large iron-pipes, in order to keep out the salt water. Our progress was extremely slow; but at length, below the quicksand, we found solid ground. Continuing the work, and passing slowly through a very stiff blue clay, with layers of oyster shell, and sometimes chalk, at the depth of four hundred feet from the surface, I found an evident alteration of the soil—more pulverised, and which had the appearance, from its dark colour and fibrous nature, of having been at some remote period the *surface* of the ground. Here I thought it advisable to insert in the hole where we were boring, wrought iron-pipes, in order to prevent the great pressure of the earth at that depth from impeding the working of the auger and rods, an obstruction we had not foreseen: but, as some time was necessarily occupied in their preparation, and the hole being only five and a half inches in diameter, I found, in consequence of the closing earth, great difficulty in getting down the pipes. By great perseverance, however, I had forced down two hundred feet of pipe below the quicksand; but below this we found the hole entirely closed. Nor was it possible, by any exertion, although repeated efforts were made, to re-open it so as to insert any more pipe, so great was the pressure; and to my extreme mortification, on the 22d of May, I was compelled to abandon the work, leaving all my pipe in the earth, where it may possibly be found some generations hence. Feeling, however, still convinced that the undertaking was practicable, in the autumn of the same year I again went to work, with the precaution, taught by experience, of inserting pipe *from the very commencement*, and constantly working within it; in our progress, we found the same soil and quicksand as described above, and continuing without any material interruption to the depth of four hundred and twenty feet. Here we found a small quantity of sand, very fine, mixed with the clay, which was held to be an indication of approaching water: still working onwards, we found the sand increase; and at four hundred and fifty feet, the soil became very tender, and filled with extremely bright shining black particles. Here my hopes were raised to the highest pitch; and watching with intense anxiety the progress of the work, at four hundred and fifty-five feet, we found a solid, and apparently, an impenetrable *rock*, upon which our pipe firmly rested, and we could hear the sound of our auger upon it very distinctly: but what thickness this rock was, had become a matter of very anxious concern; to perforate it, however, was now the object. It may here be proper to observe, that the weight of iron-rods from the surface to the rock, was not less than fifteen hundred weight. Affixing to the end of the rods a very strong hard iron chisel, with feelings, which may well be conceived, I began this laborious work; and after persevering two nights and a day, without any intermission, two sets of men being constantly at work night and day, nearly from the beginning of the undertaking, we had made a hole in the rock of about eight and a half inches in length, and two inches in diameter. Early on the morning of the second day, 1st of January, 1829, the iron rods suddenly

dropped down a distance of thirty feet *below the rock*, into what I supposed an immense body of water; and in less than two hours, I had the inexpressible gratification to witness the astonishing fact of a supply of pure and excellent spring water flowing over the surface, and which has continued without interruption to the present moment, influenced only by the ebbing and flowing of the sea: the spring yielding a greater supply as the tide approaches high water, and slightly decreasing as it recedes, but always overflowing, and never running less than two quarts per minute. The sand of the rock appeared exactly like Roman cement, both in colour and consistence.—Thus successfully terminated a work, which has since proved of most essential service in the neighbouring islands;—springs having subsequently been obtained in most of them, and the work is still proceeding.” *

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN ROCHFORD HUNDRED.

R. Rectory.		V. Vicarage.		† Discharged from payment of first-fruits.	
Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Ashington, R.	Essex	John Nottage	1795	† £8 13 4	Jos. Nottage.
Barling, V.	Pecul.	H. J. Knapp	1824	18 0 0	Dn. & Ch. of St. Paul's.
Canewdon, V.	Essex	William Atkinson ..	1809	34 1 8	Bishop of London.
Eastwood, V. ....	.....	George Price	1826	12 0 0	Lord Chancellor.
Fambridge, S. R. ....	.....	Edward Fawcett.	1809	17 0 0	E. Stevenson, esq.
Foulness, R.	Exempt. ..	Thomas Archer	1815	† 15 0 0	Earl Winchelsea.
Hadleigh, R.	Essex	John Mavor	1825	† 11 14 7	Lincoln Coll. Oxford.
Hawkwell, R. ....	.....	Charles Wallington .	1791	13 6 8	Mrs. Bristow.
Hockley, V. ....	.....	Geo. Swayne, D.D. .	1819	† 16 3 9	Wadham Coll. Oxford.
Leigh, R. ....	.....	Edward N. Walter ..	1808	15 0 0	Bishop of London.
Mucking, V. ....	.....	J. W. Vivian, D.D. .	1824	10 0 0	Dn & Ch. of St. Paul's.
Paglesham, R. ....	.....	C. A. Belli	1823	26 0 0	Bishop of London.
Prittlewell, V. ....	.....	Frederick Nolan ...	1822	18 18 4	Bishop of London.
Rawreth, R. ....	.....	J. C. White	1821	20 13 4	Pembroke Hall, Camb
Rayleigh, R. ....	.....	Sir J. Head, bart. ..	1799	17 17 6	R Bristow, esq.
Rochford, R. ....	.....	Hon. A. Windsor ..	1814	20 0 0	{ Hon. W. T. L. P. } Wellesley.
Shoebury, N. V. ....	.....	J. E. Commins	1830	† 9 0 0	Lord Chancellor.
Shoebury, S. R. ....	.....	Phil. W. Yorke	1812	14 13 4	R. Bristow, esq.
Shopland, V. ....	.....	John Quarrington ...	1803	† 9 0 0	T. Mutlow, esq.
Southchurch, R.	Pecul.	C. Bazeley	1828	27 0 10	Archbp. of Canterbury.
Stambridge, Great, R.	Essex	W. B. Ramsden	1801	20 0 0	Gov. of Charterhouse.
Ditto, Little, R. ....	.....	Hez. G. Harrison ...	1786	† 12 0 0	Lord Chancellor.
Sutton, R. ....	.....	T. Scott Scratton ...	1826	11 0 0	{ W. Cockerton, esq. } and others.
Wakering, Great, V.	.....	W. Pritchard	1822	20 13 4	Bishop of London.
Wakering, Little, V.	.....	W. B. Ramsden	1812	12 0 0	St. Barthol. Hospital.

* Previous to this fortunate discovery, many unsuccessful attempts had been made, at a great expense; and as soon as their labours here were completed, the same workmen were immediately engaged: at least twenty springs are now flowing where no fresh water was before found, and the men are still employed in the same beneficial work.

CHAPTER XVIII.

HUNDRED OF DENGLEY.

THIS hundred extends northward to that of Witham, and to the river Blackwater; eastward it meets the German Ocean: it has Rochford on the south; and on the west, Chelmsford. It is on three sides inclosed by the Crouch, the Blackwater, and the sea: its length from east to west is sixteen miles, and its breadth at its two extremities, about ten.

CHAP.
XVIII.
Dengley.

The Danes having been a considerable time in possession of this district, it is believed to have taken its name from them; or at least the place where the hundred courts were kept, in the Saxon times was named Danes-ig, *i. e.* Danes' Island. It is in Domesday written Witbricteshern; and was first named Danesei, in the time of Henry the second: in a rhyming charter (real or pretended), the custody of this hundred is granted to Randolf Peperking, by the name of Dancing.* There are the following twenty-four parishes in this hundred, three of which are in Maldon; namely, the United parishes of All Saints, and St. Peter's; and St. Mary's; Woodham Walter, Woodham Mortimer, Haseley, Purley, Cold Norton, Stow-Mary's, Farnbridge North, Lachingdon with Lawling, Snoreham, Mundon, Steple with Stansgate,

* This grant, or a copy of later date, is preserved among the records of the exchequer; Mr. Morant considers the orthography of it to be of the time of Edward the first, or second, and therefore concludes it to be a forgery. It is as follows:—

Iche Edward Konyng
Have geven of my Forest the keping
Of the hundred of Cholmer and Dancing
To Randolf Peperking and to his kindling;
With heort and hynd, doe and bock,
Hare and fox, cat and brock,
Wild fowell with his flock,
Partridge, fesant hen and fesant cock,
With green and wyld stob and stock,
To kepen and to yemen by all her might
Both by day and eke by night,

And houndes for to holde
Gode, and swift and bolde,
Four greyhounds and six braches
For hare and fox and wilcats,
And hereof iche made him my book;
Witness the bishop Walston,
And bock yeleped many one,
And Sueue of Essex our brother,
And to ken him many other,
And our stiward Howelyn,
That besought me for him.

See *Blount's Ancient Tenures*, pp. 103, 104.

BOOK II. Mayland, Althorn, Cricksea, Burnham, Southminster, Asheldham, Dengey, Tillingham, St. Laurence, Bradwell.

MALDON.

Maldon.

The borough of Maldon is one of the most ancient towns of Essex: its Saxon name, *Mældunę*, that is, the Cross-hill, is supposed to have been derived from an ancient cross erected here; or from the figure of the town, which is cruciform, consisting of one principal street, extending nearly a mile east and west, with a cross street of considerable length, and several smaller streets.

In records, the name is Maudone, Maudine, Mealdona, Meaudone, Maldun, Meldun.* The market, formerly on Saturday, is now on Thursday; and three chartered fairs are held, on Lady-day for toys; 1st of May, and 13th and 14th of September for cattle. Distant from Chelmsford, ten miles, from London, thirty-seven.

This populous town is picturesquely situated on an eminence, rising from the southern border of the ancient Idumanum, or Black-water bay, and commanding an extensive prospect over the marshy grounds toward the sea. There is a very convenient haven formed by the junction of the Blackwater and Chelmer; and vessels of two hundred tons burthen may come up to the town at spring-tides. The bringing of the Chelmer navigation here, has also added greatly to the facilities of trade. This is not a manufacturing town, but has a good home-trade, and its imports and exports are of considerable amount; the former consist of coals, iron, tin, deals, &c; the latter of flour, peas, beans, wheat, oats, and salt: there is also a very extensive fishery on the Blackwater, belonging to the corporation. The importation of coal, in 1833, including the outports and Heybridge, amounted to forty thousand chaldrons. The town has been of late much improved, with the addition of many modern houses; and there are handsome meeting-houses, belonging to the Independent dissenters and to the society of Friends; and a small society of the Wesleyan Methodists have also a place of worship. The town-hall, which is called Darcy's Tower, is an ancient edifice of brick, built in the reign of Henry the sixth: it contains a neat court for the business

* Camden and others suppose that this was the Colonia Camulodunum, mentioned in Antonines' Itinerary. Horsley, in his *Britannia Romana*, also sanctions this opinion: but, as is observed by Mr. Morant, "that Colonia was fifty-two miles from London, very nearly the measured distance from that great city to Colchester; and Maldon is only thirty-eight miles from London."

Two Roman coins were found here, one of Vespasian, with the legend SALVS AVGVSTI; the other, a gold one, in fine preservation, of Nero and Agrippina, with the legend NERO CLAVD. DIVI. F. CÆS. AVG. GERM. IMP. TR. P. COS. On the reverse, the emperor and his mother seated in a car drawn by elephants: on an ensign, carried by Agrippina, is the inscription AGRIP. AVG. DIVI. CLAVD. NERONIS CÆS. MATER. above EX S. C.

A medal of silver was found at Colchester, with the same figures and inscription as this.



of the sessions, a council-room for the meetings of the corporation, and a banquet-room. This town is not known to have been inclosed by a wall.*

On the western side of the town there are some traces of a camp; it was of a square or oblong form, inclosing about twenty-two acres; three sides of this fortification are visible, but the other has been built upon or defaced. On the northern side there is a fine spring of water, named Cromwell. Whether this was a Roman, Saxon, or Danish work, is not known; but the place has undoubtedly been anciently occupied by each of those people in succession. The most ancient historical reference to Maldon, is of the year 913, when king Edward the elder came with an army and encamped here, to impede the progress of the Danes, while a fortification was constructing at Witham;† and, according to Marianus, he was encamped here again in 920, and rebuilt and fortified the town, which, in 921, sustained a siege by a numerous army of Danes, till forces came to its relief, when the enemy was defeated, and great numbers of them slain. In 993, it was again attacked by the Danish forces, commanded by Unlaf, on which occasion earl Byrthnott, coming to oppose them, was defeated and slain, and the place fell into the possession of the enemy.

Originally this, as well as most other boroughs, belonged to the king; and at the survey, the houses were let to the burgesses at a certain rent. In the reign of Henry the first, Robert Fitz-Richard was lord of the borough of Maldon.

Afterwards it was granted, by king Henry the second, to Patridge, a Norman, who gave a moiety of it to a hospital in Normandy; and this was afterwards exchanged for lands in that country belonging to the bishop of London.‡ The bishop had also the other moiety; but whether by grant from the king, or by purchase, is not known. The latter is more probable, because, bishop Braybroke, lord chancellor, with his chapter of St. Paul's, granted it to this corporation in 1403: by virtue of this grant, they enjoy a custom, called Landcheap, which is, that all purchasers of freehold land

* In the Philosophical Transactions (vol. xlvii.) is an account of Edward Bright, a shopkeeper of Maldon, who was so enormously fat, that his size and weight are almost unparalleled. At the age of twelve years and a half he weighed 144 pounds: in seven years more he weighed 336 pounds. The last time he was weighed, which was about thirteen months before he died, his weight was 584 pounds: at the time of his death, his weight is supposed to have been 616 pounds. He measured five feet nine inches and a half in height. His body, round the chest, was five feet six inches; and round the belly, six feet eleven inches; his arm in the middle measured two feet two inches; and his leg two feet eight inches. He died at the age of twenty-nine, in the year 1750: after his death, seven men were buttoned in his waistcoat. Till a year or two before his death, he was comparatively an active man; but afterwards his extreme corpulency so overpowered his strength, that life seemed burthensome. His coffin was so enormously large, that an opening was obliged to be cut in the wall and staircase, to let him down into the shop; and it was carried to the grave upon a carriage. He left a wife pregnant of her sixth child.

† Saxon Chron. pp. 103, 106, 108, 127.

‡ The other moiety belonged to John de Launde in 1284.

BOOK II.

within the borough, shall pay, for the use of the borough, *tenpence* out of every mark of the purchase-money. In 1301, this ancient custom, with some other rents and profits arising from a moiety of the town, were holden of the king, *in capite*, by the service of the fourth part of a knight's fee; and in 1422, Henry Teye is stated to have holden a moiety of the lordship of the king, as of the honour of Peverel.

First
Charter.

The first recorded charter of Maldon was granted by Henry the second, at the request of Wilkam de Mandeville, earl of Essex; it granted and confirmed to them, and their successors, all their lands, possessions and tenements, as they held them of him within and without the borough, as far as the banlieu; namely, Haylspet, Morisbroke, Limborne, Billimbroc, Buherne, Cravenho, and Elmcroft: to have and to hold for ever, free and quiet, with sac, soc, &c., and all their liberties and free customs peaceably, freely, quietly, fully, and honourably, in lands, waters, houses, revenues in all places, and matters appertaining to their tenements aforesaid, by the service of free burgage. He also exempted them from aids, amerciaments, &c. usually levied by sheriffs, foresters, &c. Moreover, he exempted them from danegeld, hydage, carriage, summage, scutage, tallage, stallage, lastage, and toll, in every market and fair, and at the passage over bridges and along roads, belonging to this kingdom; of working at the building or repairs of castles, bridges, causeways, and the fencing of parks, &c. and from all foreign service, except the finding for forty days, at their own expense, one ship for the king's use, whenever he shall be obliged to go personally, or to send an army for the kingdom's service, being first summoned by the royal letters to a certain day and place.* Among other ancient privileges, they were entitled to common of pasture and Estovers, upon Tiptree-heath.

Charter
of Mary I.
and Philip
and Mary.

Besides several intermediate charters, queen Mary I. in 1553, on the request of sir Robert Rochester, her counsellor, and comptroller of her household, granted to the burgesses of the borough of Maldon and their successors for ever, that they should be one perpetual body corporate and politic, and one perpetual community, consisting of two bailiffs, six aldermen, eighteen capital burgesses, and the commonalty of the burgesses of Maldon. But not having named in that charter the bailiffs and other officers, nor given the burgesses any power or authority to nominate, constitute, and elect any of their own body to be bailiffs, &c.; therefore she and her consort, king Philip, the 25th of February, 1554, granted them a new charter, whereby they incorporated the burgesses and inhabitants of the borough of Maldon and their successors, to consist of two bailiffs, six aldermen, eighteen capital burgesses, and the commonalty of the burgesses of Maldon, to be one perpetual body corporate and politic in fact and in name, and to have perpetual succession. They were empowered

* Geoffrey de Mandeville had a grant of all the lands of William Peverel, and undoubtedly of what Ralph Pipherel held here at the time of the survey; which induced his son William to procure this charter. *Dugdale's Baron*, vol. i. p. 202.



to purchase and receive manors, lands, tenements, &c. provided they did not extend to the clear value of £40 beyond reprises, and were not holden *in capite*, or by knight's service.

They were also empowered to hold, before the bailiffs, in the court of their mote-hall, all manner of pleas, real and mixed, concerning any lands and tenements within their borough, liberty, and precincts of the same; and also personal pleas for any sum or kind; and to compel the defendants in real pleas, to answer, by process of law, from fortnight to fortnight; and, in personal pleas, from week to week; and to arrest and attach their bodies, and chattels within the borough, and commit their bodies to prison, and to hear and terminate all such pleas. Likewise to hold pleas of assize, novel disseisin, mort d'ancester, redisseisen, attaints, debt, accounts, trespass, and all other personal pleas whatsoever, arising within the borough, liberty, and precinct, that were moved, or to be moved, within any of the courts of chancery, the common bench, exchequer, and before the justices itinerant, or any other justices and officers, and to determine the same. The bailiffs were also empowered to hold, in the motehall, a court of view of frank-pledge concerning all tenants and inhabitants of this borough, and the suburbs, twice a year, namely, within one month after Easter, and within one month after Michaelmas. And the bailiffs, aldermen, and the rest of the corporation, and their successors, to have a prison within their house of the motehall, of which the bailiffs for the time being should be keepers. Also, within their borough or liberty, to have tumbrel, pillory, and gallows. To have a market within their borough, every Saturday for ever; to constitute and appoint a clerk of the market, and coroners of their own; to hold courts of admiralty, and have the fines, amerciaments, and other emoluments thence arising. To them were given felon's cattle, escapes, and other goods and chattels, forfeitures, &c., for their own use. They were to have one common seal; and the return of all writs and precepts, and executions of the same, provided they were not about felony or treason; and the assize of bread, wine, beer, and of all kinds of victuals; of measures, weights, &c. The bailiffs, aldermen, and capital burgesses, or a majority of them, to make reasonable ordinances and constitutions for the good of the borough, provided they were not repugnant or contrary to the laws and statutes of the realm. To assess reasonable tallages or taxes upon the goods of all persons, and of all burgesses dwelling within the borough, liberty, and precinct, as well within liberties as without, according to every ability, upon the rents, trades, and merchandises, or otherwise, as shall seem to them one's best; and to levy them by reasonable distress, committing such as refused to pay, if necessary, to prison, and keeping them there till they paid. The bailiffs for the time being, and some lawyer, and two burgesses, chosen the same day, and in the same manner and form as the bailiffs, to be jointly and severally keepers of the peace within the borough. In support of their service aforesaid, of finding one ship for thirty days,

BOOK II. as they did in the time of king Henry the first, and other kings of England, this charter granted them all fines, issues, compositions, amerciaments, forfeitures for felonies and other crimes, outlawries, waifs, strays, happening within the borough, bailieu, and precincts, without account. It also confirmed their liberties contained in the charter of king Henry the second; namely, exemption throughout England, and its ports, from scot, passage, murage, picage, &c., as they enjoyed it from time immemorial. And if any one took toll or custom from any of the burgesses, the bailiffs and other members of the corporation should go and take out of that city, borough, or town, where custom was so taken, or of the goods of him that took the toll, to the amount of what was taken from their fellow-burgess; or the trespasser should come to Maldon, and prove, by due course of law, that he owed nothing. This charter granted likewise to the bailiffs, aldermen, burgesses, and commonalty of Malton, their fishery within the liberty and precincts of their borough, and the customs of the water and of the banks whoever had lands adjoining, and the use of the creeks, and of their wharfs and cranes. Moreover it granted them, and their successors, three fairs yearly for ever, to last four days, namely, the vigil and day of St. Giles, and the day following (August 31, and September 1), and the vigil and day of the Nativity of the Virgin Mary, and the two days following, (September 8, 9, 10), with all their liberties and free customs. Next, it exempted bailiffs and other members residing within the borough, and their successors, from being impanelled out of the borough, against their will, upon any jury or assize; or to be appointed assessors or collectors of tenths, fifteenths, and other tallages, subsidies, &c., or put into any other office whatsoever, without this town and liberties. And it granted to the bailiffs, aldermen, capital burgesses, and commonalty of this borough, and their successors, that, whenever a parliament was summoned, they should have power and authority to choose and nominate two discreet and honest men, to be burgesses in parliament for their borough, as they were accustomed to have from time immemorial, and that the said burgesses should have two votes in parliament, &c. It directs that the aldermen and capital burgesses for the time being, or the greater part of them, yearly for ever, on the Friday next after the Epiphany, in the borough of Maldon, choose two of the more discreet and efficient aldermen for their bailiffs, to continue in their office for one year, and to be sworn in the same before the two other senior aldermen. None of them to be chosen bailiff again, till three years after having served the office. This charter confirms also to the corporation all their bounds and limits, namely, Haylespett, Morysbroke, Lumborn, Billingbroke, Buherne, Cratenha, and Revanks, with the waters and banks or shores within those bounds, as they had enjoyed them from time immemorial; and that none should fish, or erect cranes and wharfs, from the hethe to Revanks, without the licence of the bailiffs, &c., nor presume to sell or buy within the water, unless at the hethe of this

borough, upon pain of forfeiture. All their ancient customs, liberties, privileges, franchises, and rights granted to them at any time before, by any former charters, were finally confirmed by this in the amplest and fullest manner. This borough has continued to exercise the elective franchise from the year 1329, third of Edward the third, with some intermissions, to the present time; the right of voting two members for the borough being formerly confined to those who obtain their freedom by birth, by marriage, or by servitude.

The charter of Philip and Mary was forfeited in the fourth of George the third, and the town remained forty-six years without a charter, till 1810,* when the present charter was granted; by which the government is vested in a mayor, recorder, six aldermen, and eighteen capital burgesses, assisted by a town-clerk, chamberlain, water-bailiff, and other officers. The mayor is chosen annually, on the Friday next after the Epiphany, by the aldermen and capital burgesses, and the capital burgesses, by the mayor and aldermen. The mayor, the recorder, and two senior aldermen are justices of the peace within the borough. The freedom is inherited by birth, or obtained by marriage with a freeman's daughter, by servitude, purchase, or by gift.

Present
Charter.

The corporation hold quarterly courts of session, on the days before those for the county, for offences not capital; and have the power to hold a court of record, for the recovery of debts to any amount; but this privilege does not appear to have been exercised in the memory of man. A court-leet, with a view of frankpledge, is also holden, at which a headborough and constables are appointed. The borough, besides its jurisdiction by land, extends twenty-five miles on the sea, to the eastward of the Knowle sands.†

* At the time of this grant the youngest freeman remaining in Maldon was above seventy years of age.

† The 15th of October, 1810, the day appointed for bringing and proclaiming the new charter, commenced by ringing of bells, flags flying, and every other demonstration of joy. About noon the charter, renewing and granting to the borough all its former rights and privileges, to the fullest extent, together with its valuable and extensive fishery, arrived, preceded by a band of music. Mr. Gaskell, and the members of the charter club, amidst, perhaps, the greatest concourse of spectators that ever entered the town upon any former occasion, proceeded through the principal streets of the town, round Potman marsh, and returned nearly to the top of the town, where a platform was erected for the purpose of proclaiming it; which being done, the mayor, in a short and neat speech, congratulated the burgesses on the restoration of their rights and privileges. The body corporate were then immediately sworn into their respective offices, when they adjourned to the Blue Boar inn to dine, where the greatest conviviality and good order prevailed. A buſſock was roasted whole on Potman marsh upon the occasion, which was given to the populace, together with several butts of porter. The day passed with the greatest harmony and good order.

The following is an extract from the new charter:—

“ And further, we do, by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, grant unto the said mayor, aldermen, capital burgesses, and commonalty, that all and every person or persons who was or were duly admitted into the freedom of the said borough, before the said corporation had fallen into a state of dissolution and decay, and all and every person or persons, who by the usage and custom of the said

BOOK II.

The petty sessions for the hundred of Dengey are holden here.

There are three parishes in the town of Maldon.

All
Saints'.

The parish of All Saints occupies the highest part of the town. The church is an ancient and spacious edifice, with a nave, north and south aisles, and chancel, and a triangular tower with a sexangular spire of singular appearance.

borough would have been entitled by birth or servitude to his or their admission into the freedom of the same, and to have been of the commonalty thereof, in case the said corporation had not fallen into a state of dissolution and decay, so as to prevent their obtaining such admission; and also all and every person who, if such last-mentioned persons had been admitted into the freedom of the said borough, would by the said usage and custom have derived a title to the same freedom by birth or servitude, from, through, or under them, or any of them, in case the said corporation had not fallen into a state of dissolution and decay, shall and may at any time within six calendar months from and after the date of these presents, in case such person or persons shall be within the realm, and of the full age of twenty-one years, at the date of these presents; but in case such person or persons shall be abroad in parts beyond the seas, or be under the age of twenty-one years at the date hereof, then within six calendar months next after such person or persons shall return to this kingdom, or shall attain the full age of twenty-one years, claim and have admission into the freedom of the same borough, and be of the commonalty thereof, upon taking an oath duly to execute such office, before the mayor of the said borough, or his deputy, for the time being, which oath the said mayor of the said borough, or his deputy, for the time being, is hereby authorized and required to administer to such persons, and shall thereupon be and become free of the said borough, and be of the community thereof; and that all the children or apprentices of such persons, so admitted by virtue of these presents, shall have the same right, title, and claim to their freedom, and to the power of conferring the same hereafter, as if their respective parents or masters had been admitted to their freedom as soon as they would have been entitled thereto in case the same corporation had not fallen into a state of dissolution and decay. And further, we do by these presents, for us, our heirs and successors, grant unto the said mayor, aldermen, capital burgesses, and commonalty, that each and every daughter of every person who was heretofore admitted into the freedom of the said borough, or who shall be duly admitted into the same by these presents, or who being now deceased, or in parts beyond the seas, would be entitled, under these presents, to be admitted into the same, if he were now living, or upon his return into this kingdom, shall have the same right to nominate and appoint her husband to be a freeman of the said borough, as the daughters of freemen possessed before the said corporation fell into a state of dissolution and decay; and that in all cases in which a woman, being the daughter of any person who was duly admitted into the freedom of the said borough before the said corporation had fallen into a state of dissolution and decay, or any person who by the usage and custom of the said borough would have been entitled by birth or servitude to his admission into the freedom of the same, in case the said corporation had not so fallen into a state of dissolution and decay, hath been married and hath died before the granting of these our letters patent, leaving her husband and a child, or children, or any of them, behind her, or being now living and widow, hath a child or children lawfully begotten, such husband, child, or children, shall respectively have, enjoy, and be entitled to the same right as he and they would have been entitled to if such woman had, upon her said marriage, conferred the freedom of the said borough upon her said husband, according to the usage of the said borough, and her said husband had been thereupon duly admitted thereto. Provided always, that where such woman shall have married two husbands, the right shall be confined to her children by her first husband; and that all the ancient customs and usages of the said borough, touching the right of admission to the freedom thereof, shall continue and be observed, except so far as they are altered by these presents; and that all and every person or persons who shall hereafter be entitled to his or their admission into the freedom of the same borough, and to be

This church was given by Robert Mantel to Bileigh abbey, founded by him in Little Maldon; and that house ordaining and endowing a vicarage here presented to it till their dissolution, when the church was granted by Henry the eighth to John Gate, esq.; but the vicarage had previously, in 1306, been united to the neighbouring living of St. Peter's, and this union has continued to the present time.

In 1546, this church was conveyed to William March, and afterwards passed to the Frank family, who presented to the vicarage from 1561 to 1620: afterwards the family of Ingram had this possession.* It next belonged to Bartholomy Bludworth, merchant of London; Utricia, his widow, presented to the living in 1710; as did also her son, John Bludworth, esq. in 1725 and 1730.

Lands and tenements in Maldon were put in feoffment by various persons, to enable the wardens of St. Katharine's gild, to find a priest to sing mass in All Saints' church, and help to serve the cure.† After the dissolution, in 1548, all the messuages, lands, meadows, and pastures, belonging to this gild or fraternity, were granted by Edward the sixth to John Welles. Guild and Chantryes.

In the reign of Henry the fourth, Robert Darcy, esq. of Danbury, founded three chantries in the south aisle of this church, supposed to have been built by him for the use of the priests of these chantries: this aisle has been named Darcy's aisle, and some of the family were buried in it.

Dr. Thomas Plume gave 400*l.* to augment this vicarage, by the purchase of impropriate tithes, or of glebe land to that amount, for which the incumbent shall be resident, and take care for daily prayers.‡

of the commonalty thereof, shall hereafter take an oath duly to execute the same office before the mayor of the said borough, or his deputy, for the time being, which oath the mayor of the said borough, or his deputy for the time being, is hereby authorized and required to administer to such persons so entitled."

In 1826, at the general election for the borough, the contest lasted fifteen days, at an expense of nearly fifteen thousand pounds. Three thousand one hundred and thirteen freemen voted, many of whom were brought from Ireland, Scotland, and the most distant parts of the kingdom. The successful candidates were Thomas B. Lennard, and the hon. George Winne.

* Newcourt, vol. ii. pp. 398, 399.

† In the certificate this parish is said to contain, at that time, two hundred of houseling people.

‡ A stone in the chancel bears a Latin inscription, to inform us that here lies Robert, son of Robert Daffy, who died 17 Feb. 1428. Also, on a stone of white marble, the Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation:— Inscriptions.

"The deposit of JOHN VERNON, gent. Turkey merchant, who hath often crossed the seas, tempted thereto not so much by the love of gain, as an ardent desire of beholding the wonderful works of God in the deep. He boasts of this sepulchral stone, as not the least reward of his labours, it being discovered among the ruins of Smyrna: he also brought to light some choice ancient manuscripts, monuments of that antique city: with these he enriched his native country. He is now safely arrived at the haven of rest. He died January 28th, 1653, aged 84."

Also, with the arms of Vernon, a mural monument informs us, that "Mary, the beloved wife of the

BOOK II.

St. Peter's

St. Peter's parish is in the central part of the town. The church was given by R. Mantel to Bileigh abbey, and afterwards the vicarage was united to that of All Saints. The tower is all that remains of the church; a handsome brick building having been erected by Dr. Thomas Plume, on the site of what had become ruinous: of this, the lower part is the grammar-school, and the upper part is Dr. Plume's library.

Gild of
the Vir-
gin Mary.

In the time of King Henry the fifth, a gild was founded here for a priest to sing mass in the church, and to keep a school. The endowment of this gild was a tenement, named the Star; nine tenements and messuages, and a gate-house; and a stall in the market: four meadows in Maldon and one in Langford, called Stoketrope: two crofts of land and one garden: these were granted, with St. Katharine's gild, to John Welles.

St. Mary's.

The ancient church of St. Mary is on the lower part of the town, near the channel. The parish, at the time of the survey, was holden under Eustace, earl of Boulogne;

said John Vernon, died in childbirth of her third child, 1st of November, 1647, aged 29.—John Vernon also, the infant, whom his mother brought forth at the expense of her own life, died almost as soon as born, and lies buried with her under the same Smyranean stone."

On a mural monument the Latin original of the following:—

"Stop, traveller, and respect the urn of John Jeffrey, gent. who was the sole protector of the honour of his ancient family. He left no sons behind him, but was well known for two daughters; courteousness of disposition, and unchangeable fidelity; in these his name shines far brighter than it could have done by the fame of posterity."

The effigies of one of the Coggeshall family, dressed in armour, appear on a stone in the nave of the church: he died in 1426.

In Darcy's chapel:—"Pray for the soule of sir Robert Littleman, chantry-priest of Darcie's chapell, who died 11th Aug. 1411."

In the north chapel:—"Pray for the souls of Richard Lyon Shereman, founder of this chapel, and Katharine his wife, on whose souls Christ have mercy."

On the east wall are the effigies of a man, with two women kneeling; these represent captain Cammock, of Maldon, and his two wives, Ursula and Frances.

On the east window there are the arms of Bouchier and Louvain, quarterly; and also the arms of Vere: and in the north window some remains of the arms of king Edmund, of Edward the Confessor, and of Norman princes and nobles, with some account of them in Norman French. Among the rest was St. Lovys, Roy de France, with semé de lis, &c. These seem to be what remain of the direction to some chantry priest, for whose souls he should offer his petitions, according to the intention of a founder or benefactor.

A mural monument in the chychyard bears a Latin inscription to inform us that "John Isaac Dorislaus, J. C. lies here and sleeps unnoticed;" that he was born 3d Jan. 1601, and died 20th Nov. 1627. Salmon relates of him, "that he took his degree of doctor at Leyden, and was sent to Cambridge by the Lord Brooke, to be reader of history. He read two or three lectures on Tacitus, about the conversion of the state of Rome, from the government by kings to the government by consuls, by the suggestion of Junius Brutus. Being thought to speak too much in favour of the people, he was accused to the higher powers, and though he sufficiently explained himself, yet he was forced to leave the town, and retired to Maldon, where he married an English woman."

There are several inscriptions belonging to the Darcy family.

the profits of it appropriated to the finding of lights in St. Martin's church, in London; and king Stephen granted that collegiate church free warren in all their lands in Maldon. St. Mary's church was auciently a sea-mark, and there was a beacon on the top of the tower. This tower, becoming ruinous, fell down and destroyed part of the church; to repair which a brief was granted by king Charles the first, in 1628.*

* "Charles, by the grace of God, king of England, Scotland, Fraunce, and Ireland, defender of the faith; &c. To all and singular archbishops, bishops, archdeacons, deanes, and their officials; parsons, vicars, curats, and to all spirituall persons. And also to all justices of peace, maiors, sheriffes, bayliffes, constables, churchwardens, and headboroughes; and to all officers of citties, boroughes, and townes corporate; and to all other our officers, ministers, and subjects, whatsoever they be, as well within liberties as without, to whom these presents shall come, greeting.

"Whereas, wee are credibly given to understand, as well by the humble supplication and petition of the inhabitants of the parish of St. Mary, in the borough of Maldon, in our county of Essex, as also by a certificate made in open sessions holden at Chelmsford for our said county of Essex, the third day of July, under the hands of our trusty and well-beloved subjects, sir Henry Mildmay, knt., master of our jewels, sir Henry Mildmay, sir Gamaliell Capell, sir Humfrey Mildmay, and sir Drue Deane, knights; Robert Aylett, doctor of the civill law, John Argall, Robert Wiseman, Thomas Higham, James Heron, and Thomas Suliard, justices of the peace within our foresayd county, that the ancient, but now decaying borough towne of Maldon, having, in the judgement of the best antiquaries, been the seat of the kings of the Trinobantes, knowne in antiquity by the name of Camalodunum before it was a colony of the Romans, and hath been reputed one of the first places in this island which received the faith of Christ, and since graced with many privileges by the ensuing christian kings of this realme, is now by the fayling of their haven fallen into so great decay, that of three churches there remayneth but one fit for the service of God; that other of saint Peter having the ruynes thereof (by the consent of the bishop) converted to a publike schoole, and this of saint Mary, which is part of the collegiate church of Westminster, and whilst it stood was a sea marke, and had upon it a beacon, being heertofore very ruynous, hath been repayred by the inhabitants, and after much cost of new building a buttress for the strengthening of the steeple, the old worke fell and beate downe part of the body of the church, which the parishioners, to their great cost, have since repayred, but finding the ruynes increasing, though themselves bee but of meane ability, and much overcharged with poore, yet they have raysed a rate amongst themselves to the uttermost of what they can, but come farre short of the value required for the reparation thereof; the whole charge being likely (in the opinion of expert men) to amount to the summe of one thousand markes at the least, more than the inhabitants are able to rayse: and therefore have most humbly besought us that, according to our princely care to workes of this nature, wee would be graciously pleased to afford unto them such relief as to others in the like case hath been granted. Unto whose request, tending to the glory of God and the salvation of the soules of our said subjects, wee have most willingly condescended for a collection to be made in certaine counties and places hereafter named: not doubting but that all good Christians (well considering the premises) will be ready, freely and liberally, to extend their contributions towards the furtherance of so religious and pious a worke. Know yee therefore, that of oure special grace and princely compassion, wee have given and granted, and by these our letters patents doe give and grant to our loving subjects, the inhabitants of the said towne of Maldon, or to any of them, their deputy or deputies, the bearer or bearers heerof, full power, licence, and authority, to aske, gather, receive, and take the almes and charitable benevolence of all our loving subjects whatsoever, inhabiting within our cities of London and Westminster, with the suburbs and liberties thereof, and in our counties of Essex, Hartford, Cambridge, Middlesex, Kent, Surrey, Sussex, Huntington, Lincolne, Leicester, and Darby, with our university of

BOOK II.

On the dissolution of the college of St. Martin's, this church was given to the dean and chapter of Westminster; and the living, which is a perpetual curacy, has continued in their gift, being of their peculiar jurisdiction.

Gild of St.
George.

This, as well as the two other churches, had a gild or brotherhood; and the institution here was dedicated to St. George; lands and tenements being bequeathed by various persons to find a priest to officiate, and to help to serve the cure. The endowment consisted of lands, and of three messuages and tenements in Maldon; a messuage and hereditaments, called Boies, in Salcote and Tolleshunt Knights, with messuages and lands, called Sampsons, Widow lands, Hunger lands, Tabor, Osborne's croft, Sweet Maggots, in Tolleshunt Darcy, and lands, &c. called Smythe's, in Dengey. In the certificate, St. Mary's is said to be a great parish, having in it about two hundred and eighty houseling people. The revenues of it were granted, with the two

Cambridge, and He of Ely, and our citties of Canterbury, Rochester, and the Cinque Ports, with our borough of Southwarke, and citties of Chichester and Lincolne, and in all other citties, townes corporate, privileged places, parishes, villages, and all other places whatsoever, within our saide counties, and not elsewhere, for and towards the reedefyinge of the sayd church and steeple.

"Wherefore wee will and command you, and every of you, that at such time and times as the said inhabitants or their deputy or deputies, the bearer or bearers hereof, shall come and repayre to any your churches, chappels, or other places, to aske and receive the gratuitous and charitable benevolence of our said subjects, quietly to permit and suffer them so to doe, without any manner your lets or contradictions. And you the said parsons, vicars, and curats, for the better stirring of a charitable devotion, deliberately publish and declare the tenour of these our letters patents, or the copy or brieve thereof, unto our said subjects upon some Sabbaoth day, whereas the same shall be tendered unto you, exhorting and persuading them to extend their liberall contributions in so good and charitable a deede. And you the churchwardens of every parish, where such collection is to bee made (as aforesaid) to collect and gather the almes and charitable benevolence of all our loving subjects, as well strangers as others, and what shall be by you so gathered, to be by the minister and yourselves endorsed on the backside of the brieve of these our letters patents, in words at length, and not in figures; and the summe and summes of money so gathered and indorsed, to deliver to the bearer or bearers of these our letters patents, and to no other person, whenas thereunto you shall be required.

"And further our will and pleasure is, that for the true and faithfull dealing in the receipt and accompt of all such moneyes as shall hereby be collected, the parties entrusted and deputed to receive the same, be authorised hereunto under the seale of the sayd borough of Maldon, and the hands of both the bayliffes there, which two bayliffes and the two justices of that borough, shall give order for the keeping, yssuing, and bestowing of the said moneyes and the accompts thereof, that the publike worke intended thereby for reedifying the church may be performed accordingly. Any statute, law, ordinance, or provision heretofore made to the contrary in any wise notwithstanding. In witnesse whereof we have caused these our letters to be made patentees for the space of one whole yeare next after the date hereof to endure. Witnesse our selfe at Westminster, the eighteenth day of July, in the fourth yeare of our reigne. An. Dom. 1628.

"C. Steward.

"God save the King."

"Collected in the church of Cowley towards this brieve, May 3d. two shillings. Daniel Collins, parson of Cowley." From an official copy in the possession of Dr. J. Forbes.

other parishes, to John Welles.* There were three religious houses in and near this town.

CHAP.
XVIII.

In 1180, the abbey of Bileigh was founded here by Robert de Mantel. The house stood in Little Maldon, westward of the town: it was dedicated to St. Nicholas; the monks or canons placed in it, were of the Premonstratensian order, and brought here from Great Parndon. Their first possessions consisted of their lands in Pardon; the site of their house here, with appurtenances, two virgates of land, and two small

Bileigh
Abbey.

* The grammar-school at Maldon was founded by Ralph Breeder, one of the aldermen of this corporation; who, on his death in 1608, bequeathed three hundred pounds for its endowment. The master to be nominated by the feoffees whilst they lived, and afterwards by the bailiffs. Mrs. Anastasia Wentworth gave twenty-three pounds per annum to this school, out of a farm at Hatfield Peverell; and also two houses of about ten pounds a year. The school is a handsome edifice of brick, erected on the site of St. Peter's church, by Thomas Plume, D. D. archdeacon of Rochester, and the munificent benefactor of this his native place,—the lower part is appropriated to a school, and the upper part to a library. To support this noble institution, he gave his farm at Itney in Munden to certain trustees, to keep the school and library in good repair, and to maintain a weekly lecture from Lady-day to Michaelmas, in the upper church at Maldon, together with various other benevolent bequests.

Charities.

To his library he gave all his books and pictures (except his portrait in Mrs. Pond's house), together with his large map of the world; and desired all his manuscript papers, of his own hand, to be carefully preserved in the study of the said library. He directed that the keeper of his library should be a scholar, that knows books, M. A. and in holy orders; and may be some minister that has a neighbouring living, and shall reside in Maldon; or the schoolmaster himself, or any other person of good learning and life, that will be engaged to attend every morning and afternoon except Sundays, two hours in the library room, or in his own house near it, in all four hours each day. That any gentleman or scholar who desires may go into it, and make use of any book there, or borrow it, in case he leaves a *vadium* with the keeper, for the restoring thereof uninjured in a short time. He shall suffer no stranger to be there alone without a voucher for his honesty, and security that he shall not injure any of the books. The library keeper is to give a two hundred pound bond as surety for security that books lost or damaged shall be restored. The governors of Sion college, in London, for the time being, are to take account thereof, for which he left that college an annuity of twenty shillings out of the Itney estate: out of which estate he also left twenty shillings per annum to buy such new books as the library-keeper most desires. The library-keeper's salary is forty pounds a year, and a dwelling-house near the library.

The school is entitled to a scholarship of six pounds per annum, at Christ's college, Cambridge, founded by Dr. Plume, in turn with the schools of Brentwood and Chelmsford.

Ralph Breeder gave twenty pounds per annum, out of his farm of Itney in Munden, to the poor of the three parishes; viz. eight pounds to All Saints, and six pounds to each of the parishes of St. Mary's and St. Peter's. He also gave thirty pounds for the reparation of All Saint's church; and one hundred and twenty pounds for repairing the haven, channels, and bridges of Fullbridge and Heybridge: he also gave twenty pounds to be lent to freemen without interest. Samuel Bedel of Beleigh abbey also gave forty pounds for the same appropriation. Thomas Cammock, esq. of Maldon, gave the spring called Cromwell-water, for the use of the town.

Besides the school and library, Dr. Plume left other important benefactions. Two thousand pounds, which he had in the possession of the East India company, he ordered to be employed for making good his charities, to the workhouse for the poor of Maldon, Munden, and neighbouring parishes, and other charities specified in his will. Having previously bequeathed to it two hundred pounds, and all the residue of his personal estate not disposed of, for purchasing and providing tenements, and a stock for

BOOK II.

islands, called Rucholm and Hardholm, and the third part of Strode-wood: a field, called Alicedune; and all the land given to them in Totham and Goldhanger, by Robert Mantel;—the churches of St. Peter's and All Saints', in Maldon; of St. Laurence, in Dånsey; and half the church of St. Margaret, in Bures; and of the gift of Roeis, wife of Robert Mantel, one messuage in Mamne-lane, London. Also of the gift of Ralph de Marci, in Laver, all the land which was Felledens's, and panage for fifteen hogs every year in the wood there. Of the gift of Beukeline, wife of Roger de Langeford, at Blachehaw, all the land holden of her by Walter the Cook:* to these, other considerable possessions were afterwards added.

At the dissolution, it maintained nine canons on the foundation. The chapel was a small, but elegant building; its length, only thirty-six feet, and its breadth eighteen; the roof formed of fine-grained limestone, with groined arches, supported by three slender Purbeck columns. This chapel forms the most perfect part of what remains of the ruins, but has been appropriated to very different purposes from what was originally intended, having been used as one of the offices of a farm-house, and as a hogsty. Hidden treasures, stone coffins, and human skeletons, have been found beneath these ruins; and here Henry Bouchier, earl of Eu and Essex, who died in 1483, lies buried, together with Isabel, his lady, and the lady Mary Nevill, of Essex.†

The lordship and site of this abbey, with its church-yard and extensive possessions, were granted to John Gate, esq. in 1540, who sold them in 1549 to William Marche, who, on his decease, left them to his son William, whose co-heiresses, on his death in 1552, were his sisters, Mary, wife of Richard Bowes, Margaret, wife of John Beynham, and Elizabeth Marche.

setting the poor of Maldon, and some of the poor of Mundon, to work. And what remained of his personal estate in the exchequer, he gave towards erecting a workhouse for the poor of Maldon and neighbouring villages.

Besides his charities to this town, he left great sums for augmenting poor livings; he gave the manor of Stonecastle in Swanscomb in Kent, for maintaining a weekly lecture at Dartford or Gravesend; he gave nineteen hundred pounds for founding the Plumian professorship of astronomy and experimental philosophy at Cambridge.

This munificent person was born in Maldon, and baptised in All Saints' church 7th of August, 1630; educated in Chelmsford school, and at Christ's college, Cambridge: afterwards vicar of Greenwich, and archdeacon of Rochester. He died in the beginning of November, 1704, and was buried in Longfield churchyard, in Kent, with a Latin epitaph ordered by himself, of which the following is a translation.

Here underneath, lies the Archdeacon of
ROCHESTER,

The greatest of sinners; O that I could say of penitents!

Seek his name in the book of life:

The day will come that will restore me to the light again.

* Monastic. Anglic. vol. ii. p. 626.

† Dugdale's Baron, vol. ii. pp. 129, 130.

In 1579, Thomas Fraucke, esq. of the Rise, in Hatfield Broad Oak, died possessed of this estate; and was succeeded by his son Richard, who died in 1628; leaving his son, Leventhorp, who sold it to — Crathorne, one of the receivers in the Custom-house, London; from whom it was conveyed to Richard Ingram, and passed to his relation of the same name; in 1698, to John Bludworth, of Hampton court, whose son, John Bludworth, esq. on his decease, left it to Mrs. Sarah Clifton. It afterwards belonged to Dr. Fortescue, and now to Mrs. Baker.

Little Bileigh is pleasantly situated to the right of the road, from Maldon to Danbury: this estate was part of the possessions of the abbey; and in 1566, belonged to Thomas Eve, who sold it, with other estates in Bileigh and Maldon, to William Vernon, who had also other possessions here.* The estates afterwards belonged to Henry Bevan, esq. and to Isaac Bevan, his brother: and now to Mrs. Baker.

Little
Bileigh.

This religious house was founded in 1292, by Richard Gravesend, bishop of London, and Richard Isleham, a priest, for Carmelite or White Monks. †

Priory of
the Car-
melites.

In 1537, William Harris had a lease of the “Friers Carmelites, at the ferm rent of eightpence.” In 1546, it was holden in the possession of George Dicke and John Sterre; and was conveyed by Thomas Mildmay, esq. to Vincent Herris and his heirs, in 1563; sir Thomas Herris and his wife, Cordelia, enjoyed it for life: succeeded in this possession by John, their eldest son, whose elder brother, Thomas Herris, esq. was his successor; from whom it was conveyed to Bartholomy Brickwood, gent. descended from Thomas Brickwood of Evington, in Leicestershire, and son of Samuel Brickwood and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Symons, gent. of Maldon. In 1673, Bartholomy Brickwood, aforesaid, by will gave this estate for life to his wife Anne; remainder to his eldest son, John, who in 1693, bequeathed it to his brother Benjamin; and he, in 1707, bequeathed it to his nephew, Henry Brickwood, who in 1708 sold it to Thomas Richmond, esq. M. P. for Maldon, in the third parliament of queen Anne. Jonathan Richmond, his brother, had it after him; and his daughter, Susannah, conveyed it by marriage to Mr. Thomas Cooke, of Southwark. ‡

* He was the second son of John Vernon, esq. of Nottingham; descended from Richard Vernon, of the Peak in Derbyshire. On his death, in 1605, he was succeeded by his son and heir William, who married Sarah, daughter of John Butler of Toby, or Thoby priory, by whom he had John, William, Mary, Sarah, and Dorothy; and, dying in 1611, was buried in the chancel of All Saints' church. John Vernon, the eldest son, was engaged in a sea-faring life, and by his wife Mary, daughter of John Scrivener, esq. had several children. She died in 1647, he in 1653: both lie buried in the chancel. Captain Vernon, the last of the family, died unmarried, and poor.

† They were one of the four mendicant orders, instituted in 1122, by Albert, patriarch of Jerusalem, who gathered together a few hermits living on Mount Carmel, and gave them the rule of Saint Basil. This order was brought into England in 1205.—*Tanner's Notitia*, fol. p. 135.

‡ The following persons, eminently learned, arose from this small convent: Thomas Maldon, who died in 404, Richard Acton, in 1446, Robert of Colchester in 1463, and Thomas Hatfield.—*J. Hale*, pp. 529, 530; *J. Pitts*, p. 578; *Weever*.

BOOK II.

St. Giles'
Ho. pital.

The hospital for lepers, dedicated to St. Giles, is said to have been founded by one of the kings of England; * it was for the relief of the inhabitants, and stood in Little Maldon. The ruins of it, which were converted into a barn, were of stone, with a mixture of bricks, apparently Roman. For the maintenance of this institution, the master was to have all forfeitures of bread, beer, flesh, and fish, not fit to be eaten; and if the warden did not duly discharge his trust, the hospital was to come to the crown. In consequence of this regulation, on the mal-administration of Robert Mansfield, master, who for three years had neglected his office, and in that space of time, had neither maintained a chaplain nor any leprous person: therefore, king Henry the fourth took the institution into his own hands; but it was afterwards restored; and after Mansfield's death, was presented to by several persons, from 1422 to 1480. But Henry Bourchier, earl of Essex, and Isabel his wife, and others, who had presented the master of that time, having obtained the king's licence in 1410, conveyed, the year following, this hospital, and the lands belonging to it, to Thomas Scarlet, abbot of Bileigh, and to the convent and their successors. The chief of its revenues was the manor of Jenkin-Maldon. It now belongs to the occupier, J. Pattison, esq.

The noble family of Capel, earls of Essex, derive their title of viscount Maldon from this place; Algernon, lord Capel, having been created viscount Maldon and earl of Essex, 20th of April, 1661.

“The olde auncient and lawdable custome of this burrough is and hath byn time out of mynde of man, that if the father die seized in a howse or land within the franchise of this burrough, the yongest sonne of the first wiffe shall have the heritage. And if the first wiffe die havinge noe sonne or sonnes by her, but daughters, and afterwards marrieth another woman, and by her hath a sonne or sonnes, that then the yongest sonne of the second wiffe shall have the heritage, and so to the third, fourth, and fife, and so forth; and if he have noe sonne or sonnes but daughters, then the daughters as well of first wiffe, second, third, fourth, &c. shall have together the heritage, and the yongest shall cheuse first according to the custome.” †

In the Domesday survey, Maldon is called a half hundred, having one hundred and eighty houses and a hall, held by the burgesses of the king, who had also a house here in his own possession, with pasture for one hundred sheep, and one Socheman. Suene and his under-tenant, Guner, had lands here, which were charged with assisting in providing a horse in the king's army, and building a ship. Ralph Piperel, and Hugh de Montefort, had also lands in Maldon: and St. Martin's-le-grand, in London, held an estate under Mustace, earl of Boulogne. These possessions were divided into the following manor

* Monast. Anglic. vol. iii. pars i. p. 93—95.

† The arms of the borough are: party per pale, first, azure, three lions passant gardant, or, armed and langued gules; second, argent, a ship under sail, streamers and tackling sable.

In the time of Henry the second, the distinction of Great and Little Maldon occurs in the records; the first of these comprehends the town; and Little Maldon is that part where Bileigh abbey stood. Great Maldon is what was in the king's possession at the time of the survey, and what went to the crown on the forfeiture of Henry de Essex, the grandson of Suene. It remained chiefly in the crown; and king Stephen is said to have granted the seniority of Maldon to the earl of Boulogne; understood to be what is preeminently distinguished, as the manor of Great Maldon; which belongs, and has time out of mind, belonged to the corporation of Maldon. But besides the borough-lordship, or manor, it appears by records, that there is also another estate, named Great Maldon, which has usually gone along with the manor of Little Maldon. In 1274, Thomas de Preyers held a moiety of this manor of the king, by the service of half a knight's fee: his only daughter and heiress, Margaret, married to Robert Bouchier, lord chancellor, conveyed it into that family, of which they were afterwards deprived by king Henry the sixth, on account of their attachment to the house of York. The king afterwards gave it to Thomas Darcy, esq.,* one of his servants, but it returned again to the Bouchier family; for Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, who died in 1483, held this manor of the king, *in capite*, by the service of half a knight's fee; and his eldest son, William, having previously died, his grandson Henry, earl of Essex, succeeded;† on his decease, in 1540, he left his only child, Anne, who by marriage conveyed this estate to sir William Parr, baron of Kendal; afterwards earl of Essex and marquis of Northampton.‡ She held the manors of Great and Little Maldon, at the time of her death in 1570, and was succeeded by her heir-at-law, Walter Devereux, viscount Hereford, and afterwards earl of Essex; who the same year obtained a grant of these manors; but he did not possess them at the time of his decease, in 1576; and in 1590 they were granted by queen Elizabeth to

* He held the manor of Maldon in 1485, but it is not said whether it was Great or Little Maldon: he held it of the honour of Peverel.

† John de Vere, the thirteenth earl of Oxford, held the manor of Maldon of the earl of Essex: as did also John, the sixteenth earl.

‡ In the Gentleman's Magazine, an engraving is given of the arms of Bouchier, taken from the back pannel of an ancient carved chair, purchased of a broker in Nottingham, who had it of a poor cottager: neither the former owner nor the broker could give any account of the original possessor of this chair; but the purchaser, from a careful examination of the arms, concludes that this piece of furniture has been originally made for Henry Bouchier, last earl of Essex of that name. The arms are, first quarter, argent, a cross engrailed gules between four water-bougets; Bouchier second, azure, a bend argent between two cottises and four lions rampant or, for Bohun, which belonged to him in right of his great grandmother; third, argent a fesse and canton gules, for Vidville, which belonged to him in right of his wife; fourth, chequy, argent and azure, a fesse argent, for Louvaine, but how derived to him cannot be discovered: it is found in Wright's History of Rutlandshire, as copied from the window of Oakham church, together with the arms of Thomas of Woodstock impaling Bohun.—Vol. xci. part i. p. 64, and 66.

BOOK II. Thomas Gardiner, who dying in the same year, was succeeded by his son, afterwards sir Thomas Gardiner, who sold this estate to Robert Sprignell, esq., on whose death, in 1624, his son Richard succeeded. He was created a baronet in 1641, and styled of Coppenthorpe, in Yorkshire. His brother, sir William Sprignell, sold this estate to Captain Zachary Taylor, of Stratford, whose two daughters, Jane and Anne, had this estate; of these Anne was married first to James Frost, gent. afterwards to Thomas Freeman, gent. of Chelmsford. Her successor on her decease, was John Frost, gent. son of her first husband. The present owner of this estate is Mrs. Elizabeth Baker.

Little
Maldon.

Little Maldon manor contains the hall, with its demesnes, and also the part where Bileigh abbey was situated; being what Ralph Peverel held here at the time of the survey, it was therefore afterwards holden of the honour of Peverel. After Ralph Peverel, Robert Mantel, founder of the monastery here, had this estate: in 1210 it belonged to Matthew Montel, or Mantel, and to Cecilie, wife of another of the same name. She died in 1289; and was succeeded by her cousin, Thomas Filiol. In 1295, Roger Baynard, or Baignard, died, possessed of this estate; leaving his nephew, Thomas Baynard, son of his brother Richard, his heir; but he had not this estate at the time of his decease in 1344. In 1341, it had become the possession of William Amory, who, on his death in 1343, was succeeded by his son Edmund. It afterwards passed, with the manor of Great Maldon, to the Bouchier family. It now belongs to Mrs. E. Baker.

Jenkins.

This manor, commonly named Jenkin-Maldon, is only part of it in Maldon, the house being in Haseley, about two miles distant from the town. It is what belonged to the hospital of St. Giles; and in 1538, after the dissolution, was granted, by Henry the eighth, to Thomas Dyer; by whom it was conveyed, in 1546, to Roger Heigham; whose son William was his heir. In 1595, it belonged to Edward Bellingham, on whose decease, in 1605, he left his son Edward his heir. It afterwards belonged to sir John Smith, bart., succeeded by his son, sir John; whose two sisters were his co-heiresses. It now belongs to Mr. Gowen.

Sayers.

Sayers, or Seyers, and Souhouse, reputed manors, now constitute a grazing farm; so also do the estates of Northey Island, named, Northpit and Nordmarsh, also mentioned as manors. They were in the possession of Thomas Darcy, at the time of his death, in 1485. Now in the occupation of the proprietor, Abraham Johnson, esq.

* The marshes near Maldon (observes Mr. Young) are much better than those on the north shore of the Blackwater; but the most interesting tract of land here is the dead level which extends from about Langford, along the coast, to Goldhanger: much the greater part is arable, there being only here and there a pasture of convenience. As we advance toward Goldhanger the soil improves, and by the sea-wall is of a deep, putrid, dry, sound, friable, red and black earth, two feet deep, on a bottom of gravel; which forms the subsoil of the whole level. The crops are equal to the appearance of the land, which is of admirable fertility: much better for barley than wheat, having had ten quarters an acre, and commonly

The battle fought here against the Danish invaders, in 993, was the subject of many poems amongst the Anglo-Saxons; from among which there still remains a long fragment, describing the battle and the death of the Ealdorman Byrhtnoth. The Ely and Ramsey histories dwell on the good qualities of Byrhtnoth, on his piety and generosity, and on his strength and bravery. It appears that he had no long time before defeated and destroyed a party of Danes at Maldon, and that afterwards he had gone to Northumberland, of which county, according to the Ely historian, he was a native. In the mean time another and a larger party of Danes arrived at Maldon; on hearing which Byrhtnoth hastened back to meet them, "fearful of their gaining even a single foot of ground by his delay." On the way he passed Ramsey and Ely, at the latter of which places he refreshed his men, and he gave then many of his estates to the abbey. When he arrived at Maldon, he immediately prepared to encounter the invaders, who are made in the poem to send offers of accommodation, on condition of his paying them a large sum of money by way of ransom. Byrhtnoth answered the messenger scornfully: raising his shield, and shaking his spear, he said—

CHAP.
XVIII.
Battle of
Maldon.

“Gehyrst þu sæ-lida
hwaet þis folc segeð,
he willað eow to gafole
gáras Syllan,
ættrynne ord,
and ealde swurd,
þa heregeatu þe eow
æt hilde ne deah.
Brim-manna boda,
aþeod eft ongean;
sege þínum leodum
miccle laþre spell,
þæt her stynt unforcuð
earl mid his werode,
þe wile gealgian
eþel þysne,
Æþelrædes eard,
ealdres mīnes,
folc and foldan;
feallan sceolon
hæþene æt hilde;
to heanlic me þinceð
þæt ge mid úrūm sceattum
to scype gangon

“Hearest thou, mariner,
what this people saith,
they will give you
spears for tribute,
the venomous edge,
and old swords,
these weapons that
serve you not in battle.
Messenger of the sea-farers,
take an answer back;
tell thy people
much unpleasant news,
that here stands undaunted
an earl with his army,
who will defend
this country,
the land of Ethelred,
mine elder (i. e. chieftain)
the people and the earth:
there shall fall
heathens in battle,
too shameful it seemeth to me
that you, with your treasures,
go to the ships

seven: of oats, eight to ten constantly; and immense crops of beans. Some spots of loose frothy land have bad crops of every kind: after sowing they should be well trodden, even in wet weather, and would be much improved by a coat of clay. To the south of Maldon, generally strong land, and to the north a light turnip loam: a tract of marshes extending from the hill, on which Maldon is situated, to the sea are not in much estimation for their quality; yet they are superior to those on the northern shore.

BOOK II.

unbefohtene ;
 nu ge þus feor hider
 on urne earde
 inbecomon,
 ne sceole ge swa softe
 sine gegangan ;
 us sceal ord and eeg
 ærge geman,
 geim gud-pléga,
 ær we gofol syllog."

without being fought with ;
 now that ye have come
 so far hither
 to our land,
 nor shall ye so easily
 obtain treasure ;
 of us shall point and edge,
 grim war-play,
 first take care,
 before we give ransom."

The earl was as good as his word, for he immediately set out to encounter his enemies, but they were held asunder for a time by the Panta stream (Black water) whose tide was up, and they could not pass, nor injure each other but by their arrows. The impatience of the two armies to encounter each other is graphically described in the poem, as well as the obstinate struggle which ensued when they met together. Wulfstan, the son of Byrhtnoth, behaved no less bravely than his father. Wulfmaer, the nephew of the earl, is slain, and Byrhtnoth rushes on to revenge his death, but is himself borne down with a dart. As he falls, he cuts down with his axe the Dane who was rushing on to plunder him of his arms, and, while dying, encourages his men to defend their country. Perhaps the most interesting part of the poem is that which describes the followers of Byrhtnoth encouraging one another to avenge his death. Ælfwine first spoke—

" On ellen-spræc gemuna
 þa mæla þe we oft
 æt meodo spræcon,
 þonne we on henc
 beot ahofon,
 hæleð on healle,
 ymbe heard gewinn ;
 nu mæg cunnian
 hwa cene sy.

Ne sceolon me on þære þeode
 þegenas ætwitan,
 þæt ic of þisse fyrde
 færan wille,
 eard gesécan,
 nu min ealdor lifeð
 forheawen æt wille :
 me is þæt heofma mæst,
 he wæs ægðer min mæg
 and min hláford."

" Remember the valorous speeches
 which we often, then,
 spoke at the mead,
 when we on bench
 raised a boast,
 the warrior in the hall,
 concerning hard fight ;
 now may be known
 who is valorous.

The thanes, among the people,
 shall not reproach me,
 that I from this conflict
 will depart,
 that I will seek my home,
 now that my elder (chieftain) lieth
 mangled in the fight :
 that (his death) is to me the greatest of evils,
 he was both my kinsman,
 and my lord."

Among others of the heroes was Leofsunu, a native of Sturmere—

" Leofsunu gemælde,
 and his linden ahof,
 bord to gebeorge,

" Leofsunu spoke,
 and raised his linden buckler,
 the shield for protection,

he tham beorne oncwæð :	he addressed the warriors :
‘ Ic þæt geháte,	‘ I declare this,
þæt ic heonan nelle	that I will not hence
fleón sôtes trym,	flee a footstep,
ac wille furðor gán,	but that I will advance
wrecan on gewinne	to avenge in the battle
minne wine-drihten.	my beloved lord.
Ne þerfon me embe Stur-mere	They about Sturmere shall not need
stéde faste hæleð	to reproach with words
wordum ætwitan,	me who am a steadfast man,
nu min wine gecranc,	now my friend is dead,
þæt ic hláfordleas	that I lordless
hám siðie.	journey home,
wende fram wige,	that I leave the battle,
ac me sceal wæpen niman,	but me shall the weapon take
ord and íren.*	edge and iron.*
he ful yrré wóð,	He full wild with rage
feahst festlice,	fought firmly,
fleam he forhogode.”	flight, he despised.”

The fragment of the poem ends, in the midst of these exhortations, with Godric, who, after encouraging his companions, rushed into the conflict, and hewed down and slaughtered the enemies on every side. The result of the battle was disastrous—the Danes gained the field; and the abbot of Ely went and searched for the body of Byrhtnoth, and buried it honourably in his church.*

In 1821, All Saints’ parish contained seven hundred and fifty-nine; and, in 1831, eight hundred and fifteen inhabitants. St. Mary’s, in 1821, contained one thousand one hundred and thirty-eight; and, in 1831, one thousand one hundred and forty-six. St. Peter’s, in 1821, contained one thousand three hundred and one; and, in 1831, one thousand eight hundred and seventy inhabitants. Total, three thousand eight hundred and thirty-one; being an increase of one thousand four hundred and three since 1801.

Popula-
tion.

WOODHAM-WALTER.

The Saxon name of Woodham (a village or habitation in a wood), has been given to this small parish, to the parish of Woodham-Mortimer that joins to it, and to Woodham-Ferrers, in Chelmsford hundred; and it is probably conjectured, they have all of them been originally included in one district. The river Chelmer separates this parish from the hundred of Witham. It is pleasantly situated, and well supplied with excellent water, from numerous springs; one of these is behind the parsonage-house,

Wood-
ham-
Walter.

* The whole that remains of this poem is published in Mr. Thorpe’s *Analecta Anglo-Saxonica*, an excellent book, which contains many valuable pieces of Anglo-Saxon literature, prose and verse, and has a good glossary, so as to form a useful book for those who are beginning to study this noble language.

BOOK II. and is named Jacob's-well. A brook, flowing towards Maldon, gives the name of Brook-street to some houses on either side of the way: and a building, named the Fort, is traditionally said to have been the residence of queen Elizabeth, when threatened and persecuted by her enemies; this ancient edifice has evidently been a place of some importance formerly, but nothing is certainly known respecting it. The parish is about two miles from Maldon, and thirty-six from London.

In the time of Edward the Confessor, the owner of this lordship was named Levena; and it belonged to Ralph Raynard, whose under-tenant was named Pointel, at the time of the survey. There is only one manor.

Wood-
ham
Walter
Hall.

This manor-house, once the seat of the noble family of Fitzwalter, was about half a mile from the church. On the forfeiture of William, the descendant of Ralph Baynard,* king Henry the first gave this lordship to Robert, son of Richard Fitzgilbert, progenitor of the earls of Clare, from whom descended the noble family of Fitzwalter;† and it continued in their descendants till 1464. On the decease of Elizabeth, widow of Walter Fitzwalter, the estate passed by female heirship to the Radcliffe

* Henr. Huntingdon, ed. 1601, p. 379.

Family of
Fitz-
walter.

† Robert, surnamed Fitz-Richard, died in 1134, leaving by his wife Maud, daughter of Simon de St. Liz, earl of Huntingdon, his son and heir:—Walter Fitz-Robert, who married first Maud, eldest daughter of Richard de Lucy, with whom he had the lordship of Disc, or Diss, in Norfolk; secondly, he married Margaret de Bohun. By the first, he had Robert Fitzwalter, the second of the name, and distinguished by his zealously appearing against king John, as general of the army, under the title of Marshal of the Army of God and the Church. He was also one of the foremost in the imprudent measure of inviting Lewis, son of Philip II. king of France, into England, and assisted him in subduing the counties of Essex and Suffolk, but had soon cause to repent his rashness. (See Mat. Paris, ann. 1215 and 1216). This Robert Fitzwalter, son of Fitz-Robert, held Woodham by the service of fifteen knights' fees, and died in 1235. By his first wife, Gunnora, daughter and heiress of Robert de Valoines, he had his son, Walter Fitz-Robert, or Fitz-Walter, who died in 1258. His son and heir, Robert Fitz-Walter, born in 1258, was knighted in 1271. The succeeding year, he conveyed Baynard's castle to Robert Kilwardby, archbishop of Canterbury, who brought to that place a brotherhood of Dominican or black friars, from Holborn. This Robert Fitzwalter, in 1285, had license to enclose 100 acres of heath, to enlarge his park at Woodham; and was summoned to parliament, from 1294 to 1325. Alianor, daughter of William, earl Ferrers, of Groby, was his first wife; and his second was Dervorgil, one of the daughters and coheirresses of John de Burgh. On his death, in 1326, he was succeeded by Robert, his son and heir by his first wife; who married Joane, eldest of three daughters, coheirresses of John Moulton, of Egremond; and dying in 1328, was succeeded by his son and heir, John Fitzwalter, born in 1315, and who died in 1361; he had summonses to parliament, from 1341 to 1360; and married Alianor, daughter of Henry, lord Percy, by whom he had his son Walter, born in 1315; he was actively and successfully engaged against the rebels in Essex, under Jack Straw; was summoned to parliament, from 1369 to 1385, and died in 1386. He married first Alianor; and, secondly, Philippa, daughter and coheirress of John de Mohun, lord of Dunster, widow of Edward Playtagnnet, duke of York. By this last, he had his son and heir, Walter, born in 1368, who was summoned to parliament, from 1390 to 1403; and died in 1408, leaving by his wife Joane, daughter of sir John Devereux, (and heiress to her brother John) his two sons, Humphrey, who died young; and Walter Fitzwalter, his successor, summoned to parliament in 1428 and 1430. His widow, Elizabeth, enjoyed this manor till her death, in 1464. Arms of Fitzwalter: or, a fesse, between two chevronels, gules.

family. It belonged to John Radcliffe, esq. in 1460; who was, in 1485, summoned to parliament by the title of lord Fitzwalter, being at that time steward of the household to king Henry the seventh: joining in the conspiracy to place Perkin Warbeck on the throne, in 1494, he was convicted of high treason, and carried to Calais, where he was beheaded; but his son, Robert Radcliffe, was restored to the honour of lord Fitzwalter, Egremond, and Burnel, in 1505; and the attainder was not only reversed by act of parliament, in 1509, but he was also created viscount Fitzwalter, in 1525, and earl of Sussex, in 1529. He died in 1542. By his first wife, Elizabeth, daughter of Henry Stafford, duke of Buckingham, he had his sons, Henry, George, and sir Humphrey, of Elneſtow, in Bedfordshire. Henry, his eldest son and successor, was K. B. and K. G., and married first Elizabeth, daughter of Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk, by whom he had Thomas, Henry, and Frances: by his second wife, Anne, daughter of sir Philip Calthorp, he had Egremond; and Frances, married to sir Thomas Mildmay, of Moulsham. On his death, in 1556, he was succeeded by his eldest son, Thomas, earl of Sussex, “a goodly gentleman, and of a brave and noble nature, true and constant to his friends and servants;” * lord-deputy of Ireland, an active soldier, and employed in several embassies and other affairs of great consequence. The ancient family seat, about this time, began to be neglected; for having obtained a grant of New-hall, in Boreham, he made it the place of his residence. He died in 1583, without issue,† and was buried in the chapel in Boreham church. His widow, Frances, aunt of sir Philip Sidney, was foundress of Sidney-Sussex College, in Cambridge. His next brother, Henry, was his heir, who died in 1593, and was succeeded by his only child, Robert, earl of Sussex; who dying without issue, in 1629, sir Edward Radcliffe, the son of sir Humphrey, of Elneſtow, became his heir.

In 1670, sir Barrow Fytch, knt. presented to the living; but how long he had been previously possessed of the estate, is not known. William Fytch, esq. his son, married Mary, daughter of Robert Cory, D. D. by his wife, Mary, relict of John Mildmay, esq. which brought him Danbury-place, afterwards made his family seat,‡ after he had taken down Woodham Walter-hall, the ancient seat of the noble families of Fitzwalter and Radcliffe. Now belongs to the duchess of St. Albans.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Michael, was re-edified in 1562, by Thomas, Church.
earl of Sussex. It is conveniently situated in a central part of the parish, and has been kept in a good state of repair, at the expense of the parishioners, who have also erected a gallery. The handsome pulpit was the gift of Thomas Fytch, esq. of Danbury-place; and the chancel was put in complete repair by S. Horsmanden, LL. D.

* Naunton's *Fragmenta regalia*.

† Dugdale's *Baronage*, vol. ii. p. 265, &c. Arms of Radcliffe: Argent, a bend engrailed sable.

‡ Arms of Fytch: Vert, a chevron between three leopard's faces, or.

BOOK II. during his incumbency. Some fragments of stained glass in the window, are believed to have belonged to the more ancient original building. A vault, joining to the vestry, contains the remains of many of the Fytch family.

In the east window of the chancel, are the arms of Fitzwalter

The advowson of the rectory was given, in the reign of king Richard the first, to the knights of St. John of Jerusalem, who presented, from that time to the year 1517.† In 1548, it was granted, by king Edward the sixth, to Thomas Wriothesly, earl of Southampton, in exchange for certain lands; and he the same year conveyed it to Henry Radcliffe, earl of Sussex; from whose heirs it was conveyed to the Fytch family.

This parish, in 1821, contained four hundred and fifty-four inhabitants, and five hundred and thirty-eight in 1831.

WOODHAM MORTIMER.

Wood-
ham
Mortimer.

This parish was anciently named Little Woodham; and in Domesday, Odeham; it extends from Woodham Ferrers to Hesley, and is two miles from Maldon.

This lordship, in the time of Edward the Confessor, belonged to Siward; at the survey, to Ralph Peverell; it was given as a marriage portion to the father of Robert de Mortimer, by king Henry the second. He was grandson to Ralph de Mortimer, who came into England with the Conqueror. This Robert, in 1210, held Little Wudeham (as it is named in the record), by the service of half a knight's fee. He married Margery, daughter and heiress of Hugh de Say, lord of Ricard's castle, in Herefordshire, and dying in 1216, was succeeded by his son and heir, Hugh de Mortimer; whose successor, on his decease in 1275, was his son Robert, who, by his wife Joyce, had his son and heir Hugh, who was summoned to parliament in 1297 and 1299. His wife Maud bore him two daughters, Joanna and Margaret, co-heiresses: and from this period, as appears from records, this manor sometimes formed one and sometimes two possessions, and in the end was divided into two manors.

Wood-
ham
Mortimer
Place.

Maud, widow of Hugh Mortimer, died in 1307: Margaret, her youngest daughter, was married to Geoffrey de Cornwall, but no issue is mentioned. Joanna, the eldest, was the wife of Thomas de Bykenore; and, secondly, was married to Richard Talbot, a younger son of Richard, lord Talbot, of Eccleswell, in Herefordshire, (by Sarah, daughter of William Beauchamp, earl of Warwick,) who had this manor at the time

Inscrip-
tions.

* On a stone in this chancel, is an inscription to the memory of the rev. Marjas D'Assigny, B. D. who died Nov. 14, 1717, aged sixty-three. He was the translator of "Drelincourt on Death."

In the north window of the chancel, in Norman French, is an inscription, of which the following is a translation:—"Pray for the souls of all their children, who erected this chapel in honour of the blessed Virgin Mary." It bears arms: Argent, a chevron, sable, between three escallops of the first.

† Monastic. Angl. vol. ii. p. 508. Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 683, 684.

of his death, in 1355. Sir John Talbot, their son, died in 1375, and his wife, Katharine, died in 1380: their two sons, Richard and John, died young; and their three sisters were their co-heiresses. Elizabeth was married to sir Warine Leiceleden, or Archdeken; Philippa to sir Matthew Gurnay; and Alianor died unmarried, in 1390. But sir Gilbert had a life estate in this manor, and possession till his decease; he presented to the rectory, from 1382 to 1393: and sir Matthew Gurnay and Warine Archdeken presented in 1399. Elizabeth held a moiety of this manor with the advowson of the church; and dying in 1407 or 1408, left their three daughters their co-heiresses: Alianor, wife of sir Walter Lucy; Philippa, of sir Hugh Courteney; and Margery, of Thomas Arundel. Sir Matthew and Philippa Gurnay had a daughter, Philippa, wife of sir John Tiptoft; she died in 1417, holding, according to the record, the manor of Woodham Mortymer, supposed to mean a part of this estate: her cousins and heiresses were Alianor, wife of sir Walter Lucy; Elizabeth and Joane, daughters of Philippa, late wife of sir Hugh Courteney; and Margery, wife of Thomas Arundel. In 1424, sir Hugh Courteney died, holding a third part of this manor by the law of England, after the death of his wife, Philippa: Edward was his son; and Joane and Elizabeth were the daughters and heiresses of Philippa. Sir Walter Lucy, by his wife, Alianor Archdeken, was the father of sir William; and of Alianor, wife of Thomas Hopton, esq., and Maud, wife of Thomas Vaux, esq. Sir William Lucy married Margaret —, but died without issue; his widow held this manor, or a part of it, of the abbot of Walden, at the time of her decease, in 1466. Thomas Hopton had by his wife Alianor, William, who died without issue; and Elizabeth, first married to sir Roger Corbet, of Moreton Corbet, in Shropshire; afterwards to John Tiptoft, earl of Worcester; and, thirdly, to sir William Stanley, brother of Thomas, earl of Derby. She held a moiety of this manor, and died in 1498. William Vaux, by Maud his wife, had William, who, with Elizabeth then wife of John, earl of Worcester, had this estate in 1466. In 1512, Robert, son of Richard Corbet, esq. and sole heir to Elizabeth, lady Stanley, died possessed of this estate: his successors were his son Roger, who died in 1538; and Andrew, his grandson, who, in 1561, sold this manor to Leonard Sandel, of Hatfield Peverel; and he sold it to John Church, of Little Sandford, and Margaret his wife. He died in 1564, and left a son, named Rook, or Richard, who, in 1592, sold the manor to Henry Smith and Giles Green.

In 1593, this estate became the property of Arthur Harris, esq. third son of William Harris, of Southminster, and grandson of Arthur Harris, of Prittlewell, and of the family of this name at Cricksea, and at Shenfield. This Arthur died in 1597: he married Dorothy, daughter of sir William Waldegrave, of Small-bridge; by whom he had his son William, his heir and successor, who died in 1616: succeeded by his son John, whose son and heir was sir Arthur Harris, knt., who on his death, in 1632,

BOOK II. was succeeded by his son Cranmer, afterwards sir Cranmer Harris, who married Martha, daughter and co-heiress of Daniel Holford, of West Thurrock, and left by her, Martha and Mary, co-heiresses. Martha conveyed the manor of Woodham Mortimer-place, with the advowson of the church, to her husband, Charles Mildmay, esq., youngest son of sir Henry, brother to sir Thomas Mildmay, of Moulsham-hall; and their only daughter and heiress, Martha, was married to sir Charles Tyrell, bart. of Heron; whose descendants retained this possession, till it was sold by sir John Tyrell, to the right hon. Lucius Carey, lord viscount Falkland. Belongs now to Mrs. E. Wegg.

Woodham Mortimer-place, the manor-house, is a mile south-west from the church. It is in the occupation of Christopher C. Parker, esq.

Wood-
ham
Mortimer
Hall.

The capital mansion, belonging to this manor, is near the church; and is said to have been built by sir Cranmer Harris for one of his daughters. The estate has been reckoned a manor, but has neither had tenants, nor held courts. It was purchased of the Harris family, by Peter Chamberlen, M. D. who died in 1683, aged eighty-two. By Jane Middleton, his first wife, he had eleven sons and two daughters, who among them had forty-five grand-children, and eight great grand-children, of whom there were living at his death, Hugh, Paul, and John, and his two daughters, and twenty grand-children, and six great grand-children. By his second wife, Anne Harrison, he had three sons and two daughters, of whom only Hope was living at the time of his death. Hugh Chamberlen, his grandson, an eminent physician, died in 1728. Hope, the youngest son of Peter, had this estate, and sold it in 1715, to Mr. William Alexander, wine merchant, of London, who gave it by will to the Wine Coopers' Company, of that city. A handsome obelisk has been erected, opposite the hall, with an inscription to the memory of Mr. Alexander. Mr. W. Hart is the lessee of this estate.

Hide
Park.

A reputed manor, named Hide park, belonged to Robert Latham, who died in 1520; it is partly in Purley, and partly in this parish.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Margaret, is of one pace with the chancel; the altar-piece is richly carved.*

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to three hundred and forty; and only to three hundred and thirty-nine, in 1831.

Inscrip-
tions.

* Weever has preserved the following inscriptions:—Pray for the sowlys of John Coker, and Christian, his wife, which John died 8 Oct. 1478.—To the memory of Dorothy, daughter of Giles Alleine, that died, 1584, æt. 3 years:

A little impe here buried is,
Whose soul to Christ is fled.

An altar-tomb, over a vault, bears an inscription to the memory of Dr. Peter Chamberlen, with a poetical inscription of great length, but very indifferent composition. He was born, May 8, 1601, and died December 22, 1693.

HASELEY.

This small parish is situated south-eastward from Woodham-Mortimer; the name in records is written Haileshei, and Haileslei. Distant from Maldon two miles. Haseley.

Serlo and Ailmer were the possessors of this parish before the Conquest; at the survey, it belonged to Ralph Peverell, and Serlo held under him that part of it which had previously belonged to him: the other portion was holden by Godric. In the survey, it is made to form two distinct manors, named great and little; but one of these is supposed to have been joined to one of the neighbouring parishes, as there is now only one manor.

The manor-house of Haseley is near the church, and the account of its owners is very imperfect. In 1210 and 1211, Alice de Hailesle held the fourth part of a knight's fee: and Richard, the son of Ranulph, had one fee in Great Hailesley, which Matthew Mantel held of him. In 1260, a charter of king Henry the third grants free wafren in Brightlingsey and Haylesley, to John de Munuirun, or Munviron, who may hence appear to have been lord here. Haseley
Hall
Manor.

In 1328, William de Horewold presented to the church; and with Cecily, his wife, appears to have enjoyed this estate in 1339. In 1421, John de Leigh died in possession of it; and Thomas, his son and successor, died in 1438, possessed of this manor and that of Shelley; Thomas Leigh, his son and heir, had this manor, and also the manors of Shelley, of Olives, and Garnetts in Margaret Roding. His son Henry died before him, in 1494: himself died in April, and Joanna, his wife, in August, 1509; and were succeeded by their grandson, Giles Leigh, esq., of Walton; who, dying in 1538, left his two daughters his co-heiresses. Mary was married to John Alleyn; and Agnes to Christopher Alleyn, brothers to sir John Alleyn, lord mayor of London, sons of Richard Alleyn, of Thaxted. These, in 1539, had livery of Leigh's lands in Essex, including the manor of Haseley, and the chantry of St. Nicholas, in the church of Haseley. Haseley was included in the share of Agnes, who died in 1553, having had by her husband Christopher her sons, Giles, Anthony, and Ralph. Giles, the eldest son, inherited this estate; he married Mary, daughter of John Skory, bishop of Hereford, by whom he had Samuel, Isaac, Rebecca, wife of Thomas Nevill, of Stock, gent.; Mary, wife of William Coys, of North Okendon; and Anne, of Henry Chauncy, of Yardley, in Hertfordshire, gent.; he died in 1608. Samuel, the eldest son, dying without issue, in 1614, Isaac, the next brother, succeeded. He married, first, Mary, daughter of John Pake, of Bromfield, and had by her Giles, John, and Anne. By his second wife, Anne, daughter of Henry Leigh, of Ruthall, in Staffordshire, he had William. Giles Alleyn, esq., the eldest son and

BOOK II. heir, married Susan, daughter and sole heiress of John Nevill, of Stock; and had by her John, born in 1636, Giles, Amy, Elizabeth, Susan, and Mary.*

Afterwards, this estate became the property of Henry Mildmay, esq., of Graces, in Little Badow, who gave it to his second daughter, Lucy, wife of Thomas Gardiner, esq., of Bouchier's hall in Tollesbury; of whom it was purchased by sir John Smith, bart., of Isleworth, in Middlesex, who dying in 1726, was succeeded by his son in his estates and title. Now belongs to Mrs. Trevin.

Church. This church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is of timber, plastered, and of ancient appearance.

The rectory has always been appendant to the manor. It was for more than a century presented to as a chapel, till 1390, when it was presented as a rectory.

In 1821, there were one hundred and twenty-eight inhabitants in Haseley; but in 1831 only one hundred and nineteen.

PURLEY, OR PURLEIGH.

Purley. Part of this extensive parish rises above the surrounding district, and is pleasant and healthy, the site of the church and village commanding an extensive and varied prospect, in many parts of it presenting luxuriant sylvan scenery of a wild and picturesque appearance; to the west and north-west the woody eminence of Danbury and the churches of Haseley and Woodham-Mortimer; north and north-eastward, Blackwater-bay gradually opens through the distant marshes, and in the nearer view the town of Maldon, with the churches of Langford, Tolleshunt-Darcy, Tolleshunt-Beckenham, Goldhanger, and Tollesbury; to the east, the churches of Mundon, Steeple, Lackington, Althorn, and St. Lawrence; on the south, a fine view of Canewdon church; and over Rochford hundred and the river Thames may be seen the hills of Kent. According to Norden, the name of this parish is from the word Purlieu, applied to the borders of a forest, in which the king's rangers were to confine their excursions in hunting the deer, and where the owners of land had the right, under certain restrictions, to kill game. Reginald de Grey, who died in 1307, had this lordship, with which he enjoyed the privilege of Purlieu; as is expressed in the record, "he had Purlieu within this whole lordship, of any deer or forest wild beast." In records it is sometimes written Purlay, Purlai, and Purle. The parish is nine miles in length; distant from Maldon three miles, and from London thirty-nine.

There is a fair here on Whitsun Tuesday.

Before the conquest, the lands of this parish were holden by Edeva, Gudmund, and ten other freemen, Algar, a freeman, Lewin, Lewin Cilt, and Grime. At the

time of the survey, they belonged to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, Hugh de Montfort, Robert Gernon, Walter the Deacon, and Ralph Baignard. There are three manors, and several estates formerly named manors.

The mansion of Purley hall is near the west end of the church. The noble family of Grey of Wilton were, at an early period, in possession of this lordship. John de Grey, "held Purle," in 1220, and also in 1243; in which year a grant was produced at the Pleas of the Forest, at Chelmsford, from king Henry the third, to John de Grey, of free-warren in Purlai, Gilbetrake, Lechendon, and eleven of his other manors, in which was also included a license to hunt and take, in all the king's forests in England, fox, hare, and cat, except in the king's demesne warrens, provided he did no damage to the king's hunting. He died in 1266; and his son and successor, Reginald de Grey, on his decease, in 1307, left John his son and heir; who was succeeded by his son Henry, in 1323; he held, beside this estate, a park called "le Hyde Parke in Purle," of the prior of Christ's church in Canterbury. Dying in 1342, his son Reginald de Grey de Wilton-upon-Wee, held this manor; he died in 1370, leaving sir Henry, his son, his heir; whose son, sir Richard Grey, held the same, except what lay in Danbury and Leighs. On his decease, in 1442, his son Reginald succeeded, followed by his son John, whose son Edmund* sold the estate.

Purley
Hall.

In 1519 sir Giles Capel had this manor, whose successor in the possession of it was Hugh Dennys, succeeded by his son Henry, who died in 1569; whose son John, on his decease in 1609, left Henry, his son, his heir. Succeeding possessors were Alexander Comyns; and James Bonnel, esqrs. Now belongs to Mrs. Bonnel.

This manor formerly passed, with Purley hall, to the successive holders of that estate, till Edmund lord Grey, and Florentia his wife, in 1504, conveyed it to John de Vere, earl of Oxford. It passed to four successive earls of the name of John, and to Edward, who, in 1577, conveyed it to John Mabbe, goldsmith, of London; who, in 1584, sold it to Edward Glemham, esq., of Benhall, in Suffolk; who, the following year, conveyed it to George Wolmer, esq., from whom, in 1601, it passed to sir Michael Sandel, of Throwley, in Kent; and was purchased of him by Robert Clarke, esq., one of the barons of the Exchequer; and he gave it to his second son, Jeremiah Clarke, of Stebbing, who, in 1638, sold it to William lord Maynard; from whom it was conveyed, in 1652, to Robert, afterwards sir Robert Abdy, bart., and he left it by will to his son, sir John Abdy, bart., who, in 1679, sold it to Edmund, afterwards sir Edmund Wiseman, knt.; from whom it was conveyed, in 1687, to Henry Collins, esq., of the Middle Temple; from whom it descended to his son Henry, whose son and heir, Anthony, married, first, Martha, daughter of sir Francis

Gibbe
crake.

* For an account of this noble family, see Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. They had summons to parliament from 23 Edw. I. 1295 to 43 Eliz. 1601.

BOOK II. Child, by whom he had Henry, Anthony, Elizabeth, and Martha: he married, secondly, Elizabeth, daughter of sir Walter Wrottesley, by whom he had no issue. His son Henry died young, and Anthony died unmarried in 1723. Martha was married to Robert, brother to the right hon. the lord Fairfax, and died without issue; Elizabeth was married to Walter Carey, esq., who, in her right, had this and other estates. It now belongs to —— Lovebond, esq.

Waltons. The estate anciently belonging to Hugh de Montford, is believed to have been what has since been named Nether hall, and, from one of its owners, Waltons. The earliest recorded possessor after Montfort was Aumaritius Battaile, in 1211, who died in 1252; and John de Aketon, and Petronil his wife, mother of Aumaritius, or Aumaric, held 'it in dower, of the fee of William de Howbrigge; Saer, his son and heir, at the time of his decease, in 1292, held a messuage in Purle of Edmund, son of Thomas de Purle, by the service of a clove-gillyflower, with other possessions, including this estate. Margaret, or Margery, was his sister and heiress: she was married to sir William de Sutton, whose successors were, sir John de Sutton and another sir John, whose daughter, and, at length, sole heiress, conveyed it to her husband, John Walton, esq., to whom she bore Richard and Joane.' Richard, the son and heir, died without issue, in 1408 or 1409, leaving his sister Joane, married to sir John Howard, jun., the inheritor of his estates, which their only daughter, Elizabeth, married to John de Vere, twelfth earl of Oxford, conveyed to that noble family, who retained possession of it till Edward, the seventeenth earl, in 1559, sold it to George Golding, esq., who died in 1584, leaving Arthur Golding, his brother, his heir; who, in 1595, sold this estate to Thomas Mildmay, esq., eldest son of William Mildmay, esq., of Springfield Barnes: he died in 1612, and his grandson, Thomas, son of his eldest son William, was his successor. It afterwards became the property of Elizabeth Mildmay, of Graces, married to Edmund Waterhouse, merchant, and was conveyed to James Bonnel, esq. Now belongs to Mrs. Bonnell.

Barons. The mansion of the manor of Barons is near the parsonage. In 1339 Margaret Baroun died, holding the whole or part of this estate, and was succeeded by her son, Robert Baroun, who died in 1349. John Wyburne, his sister Emma's son, Alice, wife of Thomas, son of Reginald at Hoo, another of his sisters, and Johanna le Smythies, his third sister, were his heirs, of whom this manor is understood to have been purchased by Giles Branson, who died in 1363. His heir was John, grandson of his brother Robert. John de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, had this estate at the time of his death, in 1374, and settled it, with his other possessions, on his mother's sister's son, William de Beauchamp, a younger son of Thomas earl of Warwick; and Joane, widow of this William, held it at the time of her decease, in 1435. Their son, Richard de Beauchamp, earl of Worcester, dying in 1422, left an only daughter, Elizabeth, married to sir Edward Nevill, fourth son of Ralph, earl of

Westmorland, who, in her right, became lord Bergavenny, and succeeded to her estates. On his death, in 1476, he left his son George, lord Bergavenny, his heir. This estate was holden of him by Robert Latham, who died in 1519, and also by his son and heir, William. It was holden of sir Richard Rich by William Strangeman, who died in 1573; and in 1604 it was holden of sir Thomas Mildmay, by Dudley Fortescue, esq. It now belongs to John Jolliffe Tufnell, esq.

This manor is part of what belonged to Walter the Deacon, at the time of the survey; and his son, William Mascherall, founder of the nunnery of Wikes, settled it on that house; it retained possession of it till the dissolution of the lesser monasteries, in 1525, when it was granted to Cardinal Wolsey; after whose disgrace it was granted, by Henry the eighth, to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, in 1538; and he, the following year, conveyed it to John and Francis Stonard; and they, in 1575, sold it to William Bode, who, on his decease in 1591, was succeeded by his son and heir John. It now belongs to the Charter-house in London, and the governors hold a court yearly, at the Cut-round-Bush, in the middle of the road.

Frene
and Sack-
lets.

This reputed manor, named Lachendon, or Purley, Barnes, is stated to have formed part of the parish of Lachingdon. It is one of the parcels that belonged to Hugh de Montford at the time of the survey, and was holden under him by Gudmund, Humphrey, and Ulmar. No account of succeeding owners is found till 1323, when it belonged to John de Grey, of the noble family of Grey of Wilton, with whom it remained till 1451, when sir Richard Grey died in possession of it.* It was holden by Robert Latham of sir Charles Capel, and by William Latham, his son. The estate afterwards belonged to Henry Ashurst, esq., who, in 1671, sold it to Henry Mildmay, esq., of whom it was purchased by Charles Coe, of Maldon, who gave it to his son, Thomas Coe, M.D. of Maldon, from whom it passed to his descendants.

Laching-
don-
barnes.

The hamlet of Callow Green, in this parish, formerly belonged to the prior of Christ's church, Canterbury, and is now in the peculiar jurisdiction of the dean of Bocking.

Callow
Green.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a handsome structure, on an eminence, with a nave, north and south aisles, and chancel, and an ancient embattled tower of flint and stone. Over the western door, carved heads of a man and woman are said to represent the founders of this church. The remarkably neat appearance of the interior of this church is attributable to the pious munificence of Samuel Horsmanden, LL.D., during his incumbency. He new-fronted the pews at his own expense, and gave a handsome brass chandelier, of twelve branches, which bears this inscription:—"The gift of Samuel Horsmanden, LL.D., rector, 1758." At his death he

Church.

* Arms of Grey: Barry of six, argent and azure.

BOOK II. bequeathed an elegant service of communion-plate for the use of the church. The chancel is paved with stone, and the pulpit and altar-piece are of handsome workmanship. Over the vestry there is a convenient gallery for the singers. In the north aisle there is a chapel, which belonged to the Bouchier family, and their arms are said to have been formerly painted in the window where there now appear fragments of stained glass.*

This rectory was given to the priory of Horton, in Kent, by Robert de Vere, son of Bernard,† founder of that priory, and the advowson continued in the prior and monks till their dissolution, afterwards remaining in the crown till the end of the reign of James the first, when it was granted to the Horsmanden family, of Kent.‡ It has since been purchased by Oriel College, Cambridge.‡

This parish, in 1821, contained nine hundred and sixty-seven inhabitants; increased to one thousand and forty-four in 1831.

Inscriptions.

* Within the rails of the altar, on black marble, is inscribed :—" In this vault is deposited the body of Barrington Horsmanden, esq. formerly one of the sworn clerks of the high court of Chancery. A bad state of health obliged him to quit business some time before his death; he was a man of indefatigable labour and industry in his profession, whereby he gained many friends and great practice; he acquired an easy fortune with lasting credit, which he disposed of among his relations: he died on the 28th day of December, 1756, in the sixty-first year of his age. Here are also the remains of Wharham Horsmanden, esq. and Susanna, his wife, who died in 1691, aged sixty-four years.—Of Susanna, wife of Daniel Horsmanden, A.M. rector of this parish; she died on the 3d day of January, 1713, in the forty-eighth year of her age;—of the said Daniel Horsmanden, who died on the 18th day of October, 1726, in the seventy-third year of his age;—of Susanna Horsmanden, daughter of the said Daniel and Susanna; she died on the 1st day of March, 1756, in the sixty-fifth year of her age.—Within this vault are also deposited the remains of the rev. Samuel Horsmanden, LL.D. brother to the above Barrington, and late rector of this parish; he was a gentleman deservedly esteemed in his profession, and well-beloved by his parishioners; he was one of his majesty's justices of the peace for this county, which office he filled with credit; and, in his ecclesiastical and civil capacities, hath left behind him the best of memorials—a good name. He departed this life, April 19, 1769, in the seventieth year of his age.—On the north side of the chancel, near the altar :—Here under lieth buried, the bodie of Mr. John Freake, batch. of divinitie, late parson of Perleighe, and archdeacon rwich, who died on the 4th dai of Sept. 1604, and 60th yere of his age, having had issue of his bodie begotten, six sonnes and seven daughters.—Also a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation :—Cecily Freake, a good woman, and pious widow, relict of the rev. father, Edmund Freake, formerly chief almoner to the sacred queen Elizabeth; first bishop of Rochester, then of Norwich, and lastly, of Worcester; also rector of this church. She died full of days, 15th July, 1599.

Charities. † The rev. Samuel Horsmanden left 30*l.* per annum for the maintenance of a schoolmaster and schoolmistress, to teach all the boys and girls of the parish reading, writing, psalmody, and arithmetic; and the girls, plain needlework and knitting: also 40*s.* a year, to entertain the trustees, when they meet to settle accounts; and 20*s.* to keep the windows of the chancel in repair. This parish school is rendered more effective by additional donations.

‡ Arms of Horsmanden: Azure, between a fesse, three wolves' heads erased, or.

‡ Mon. Angl. vol. i. p. 261.

COLD NORTON.

This parish is situated between Stow Mary's on the south, and Purley northward; it is distant from Maldon five miles, and thirty-seven from London. Cold Norton.

In the time of Edward the Confessor the chief holder of lands here was a freeman named Uluric; and at the survey the lordship belonged to Ralph Baynard: but it was forfeited by his grandson William, and afterwards given by king Henry the first, to Robert, son of Richard Fitz-Gilbert, ancestor of the family of Fitzwalter. There are two manors.

The mansion of the capital manor is near the church; in 1290, John de Bathon, (or of Bath) enjoyed this estate by the law of England, because he married Elianor, daughter and heiress of sir Geoffrey de Aunblie; who held it of the lord Robert Fitzwalter, of Woodham, in capite, by the service of one knight's fee: the lady Joane, wife of sir John de Bohun, was his sole heiress: she was the daughter of Elianor, wife of John de Bathon. In 1316, John de Bohun died possessed of this estate; leaving John, his son, his heir. Oliver de Bohun held it under Robert Fitzwalter, in 1328;* and it passed from this noble family into that of Stafford and of Bouchier. On the partition of the Bohun estates between Anne, countess of Stafford, and king Henry the fifth, the countess had this manor for part of her share, in 1433; and her fourth son, sir John Bouchier, K.B., and by marriage lord Berners, had this possession in 1467. In 1521, on the attainder of Edward Stafford, duke of Buckingham, he being possessed of this estate, it passed to the crown; and was granted, by Henry the eighth, to sir William Tyler: on whose death, in 1527, it was granted, by the same monarch, to Robert Ratcliffe, viscount Fitzwalter; and queen Elizabeth, in 1598, granted it to his nephew, Robert earl of Sussex; who soon after conveyed it to Thomas Sutton, esq., and he made it part of the endowment of his rich foundation at the Charter-house. It now belongs to the governors of that institution. Cold Norton Hall.

This was originally included in the other manor, but at what time it was separated is not known. Flambards, the mansion, is nearly two miles from the church. It is first mentioned in records in 1486, when it was holden by Margaret Alley, widow, sister of Richard Alley. Sir John Browne was the next possessor of this estate: he was son of John Browne, of Okeham, in Rutlandshire, lord mayor of London, in 1480, and died in 1497. By his first wife, Alice, daughter of sir John Swinsted, he had Robert, father of Robert Browne, esq., of Walcot, in Northamptonshire; and by his second wife, Anne, daughter of — Belwood, had William Browne, esq.,† West Whetenham and Flambards.

* Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 438.

† Stow's Survey of London, book 5.

BOOK II.

born in 1467, one of the sheriffs of London in 1504, and lord mayor in 1513. By his first wife, Margaret, daughter of Edmund Shaa, he had William, Anne, Julia; by his second wife, Alice, daughter of Henry Keeble, lord mayor of London, he had John, seated at Horton, in Kent, and Anne, wife of John Tyrell, esq., of Heron. Sir William, the father, died in 1514, holding these two manors of the lord Berners. Wm. Browne, esq., his eldest son and heir, who died in 1549, held also these manors; he married a daughter of Ralph Dormer, lord mayor of London, and had by her Thomas, John, and Elizabeth, wife of Stephen Beckingham, of Tolleshunt. Thomas Browne, esq., his eldest son and successor, born in 1526, held these and his father's other estates, and died in 1567; he married Jane, daughter of sir Giles Allington, of Horsheath, in Cambridgeshire, by whom he had John, Helen, wife of George Fytch, of Brazenhead, and Anne, married to Thomas Bridges, of West Hanningfield: John, the son and heir (afterwards sir John) married, first, Katharine, daughter of Henry Botiller, of Hatfield-Woodhall, in Hertfordshire; and, secondly, he married Cecily, daughter of sir John Croke, one of the justices of the King's Bench: by the first, he had eight sons and four daughters. He died in 1619, and his eldest son Giles succeeded, who married Mary, daughter of sir William Harris, knt., of Cricksea, by whom he had Arthur Browne, esq., living in 1664. He married Anne, daughter of John Aylmer, esq., of Mugdon hall, by whom he had Giles and Arthur.

Church.

The church is a small building, with a wooden spire: it is dedicated to St. Stephen.

The rectory belongs to the manor of Norton hall, and is in the gift of the Charter-house.*

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to two hundred and twenty-six, and, in 1831, two hundred and sixteen.

STOW MAREYS, OR MARIES.

Stow
Mareys.

This parish extends from Cold Norton southward to North Fambridge; and from the border of Chelmsford hundred to Snoreham, and Latchingdon on the east. Formerly there was a family surnamed Mareys in this parish, who are supposed to have taken from, or given to it this appellation, and the Saxon *Stow*, signifies place: it is sometimes written Stow-Marish, and Stow Marsh. This name is not found in Domesday, but believed to be what is there named Eastanes, which, before the

Inscriptions.

* In the chancel a mural monument bears the following:—"Here lieth Maud, that was the comfortable wife of Robert Cammocke, of Layermarnie, in the county of Essex, gent., and one of the daughters of John Tasburghe, of Felixton, in the county of Suffolk, esq., who died September 23, 1599, leaving a son, and having a daughter buried with her."

In the church-yard the following:—"Here lieth the body of William Walker, esq., justice of the peace for this county, ob. Dec. 9, 1708, in the 68th of his age, where his great grandfather, grandfather, and father, all of the same name, lived many years, and are all buried in this grave."

conquest, belonged to Dodine, and at the survey to Walter the Deacon; and Hametuna, or Haintuna at that time holden by Suene; and which previously had belonged to Godric, and another freeman, and to Robert, son of Wimarc; the under tenants being Galter, Garner, and Ralph. Several estates belonging to other parishes, appear from the records to have extended into this. There were two manors.

Stow Mareys manor-house is three quarters of a mile from the church. The estate, in 1372, was holden of Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford and Essex, by John Mareys, whose family retained possession till 1389, when it was conveyed to Conand Aske, or his feoffees; in 1433 it belonged to John Hammond, and to Richard Hammond from 1453 to 1488:* it was in the possession of William Willford and his wife Agnes in 1548. Anthony Maxey, esq., of Bradwell, near Coggeshall, died possessed of it in 1592; and sir Henry, his son and heir, died in 1624, who, having no issue, was succeeded by his brother, sir William Maxey.

Stow
Mareys
Manor.

The mansion of the manor of Hayes is nearly a mile southward from the church; the name is believed to have been derived from Hainetun, mentioned in Domesday book: it is sometimes called Abbot-Hayes; and mention of Great and Little Hayes occurs in the same record. This manor belonged to the Sutton family, who presented to the church alternately with the manor of Stow. In 1341, it was settled by fine on John, son of John de Walton, and his wife Margery, daughter of John de Sutton, and their heirs; and they presented to the church from 1321 to 1390.† Joane, heiress of the Walton family, was married to sir John Howard, and conveyed this estate to him, and their only daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, conveyed it to her husband, John de Vere, thirteenth earl of Oxford, who presented to the living from 1488 to 1511; John his son, the fourteenth earl, was the next possessor, from whom it descended to his successors; till it was conveyed by Edward, the seventeenth earl, to — Cooper, or — Goodwyn.

Hayes.

The church is an ancient building, dedicated to the Virgin Mary.

Church.

In 1821 there were two hundred and forty-two inhabitants, and precisely the same number in 1831.

NORTH FAMBRIDGE.

The river Crouch separates this parish from South Fambridge: it occupies the south-west corner of the hundred. Distant from Maldon five miles, and thirty-eight from London.

North
Fam-
bridge.

In Edward the Confessor's reign, these lands belonged to Godric, a freeman, and, at the survey, to Tedric Pointel. There is only one manor.

* Newcourt, vol. i. p. 564.

† Newcourt.

BOOK II.

North
Fam-
bridge
Hall.

The hall is near the east end of the church: the account of the possessors of this manor is very imperfect till 1328,* when it belonged to William de Burgh, earl of Ulster, who died in 1333. His only daughter and heiress was married to Lionel, third son of king Edward the third, whose only daughter by him was Philippa, married to Edmund Mortimer, earl of March and lord of Wigmore; who, in her right, became earl of Ulster, and lord of Clare, Connaught, and Trim: besides other great estates, he had this manor as part of the earldom of Gloucester. Dying in 1381, he was succeeded by his eldest son, Roger Mortimer, earl of March and Ulster, who, at the time of his decease in 1398, held this manor. Anne, his eldest daughter, ultimately his sole heiress, was married to Richard Coningsborough, earl of Cambridge, second son of Edmund de Langley, fifth son of king Edward the third: he was beheaded for joining in a conspiracy against king Henry the fifth, and this and his other estates forfeited to the crown. It was given by king Edward the fourth to Anne, sister of his queen, and third daughter of Richard Widville, earl Rivers; married, first to William Bouchier, son of William, earl of Eu and Essex, by whom she had Henry, afterwards earl of Essex, and Cecily, married to John Devereux, lord Ferrers, of Chartley. The lady Anne's second husband was George lord Grey, earl of Kent. At the time of her decease, in 1489, she possessed this manor, which descended to her son, Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex; on whose death, in 1540, it became the property of his daughter Anne, and of her husband William Parr, earl of Essex, and marquis of Northampton. On the decease of the lady, in 1571, her heir was Walter Devereux, lord Ferrers, of Chartley. In 1591, queen Elizabeth granted this estate to Christopher Osborn; and John Osborn, supposed his son, died in 1606, possessed of it, with other estates in this neighbourhood: his heir was his uncle John; and the estate continued in the family till Elizabeth Osborn, sole heiress, conveyed it in marriage to her husband, Temple Fotherley Whitfield, esq., who, dying in 1729, left it to his nephew, Major Ralph Whitfield, esq., who died in 1744, and was succeeded by his son, Thomas Whitfield, esq., one of the Filazers of the court of common pleas. It is now the property of the Rev. — Hele.

Church.

The church is a small brick building, near the Ferry, dedicated to the Holy Trinity.†

* In 1276, John Fitzjohn held the manor of Fambregg, with the advowson of the church, of sir Robert Fitz-Bernard, in capite; and, in 1297, Richard Fitzjohn held this manor of Robert Fitzwalter, by the service of five fees and a half. One of the said Richard's co-heiresses, Joane, wife of Theobald the Botiller, was afterwards possessed of it. See Dugdale's Baronage, vol. I. p. 707, 708.

Inscrip-
tions.

† There is a grave-stone in this church, with an inscription on the Wyatt family; and on a stone in the chancel, under the effigies in brass of the parents and children, is the following:—"William Osborn, who had to wife Ann, daughter of sir William Walker, by whom he had eight sons and eight daughters; ob. Jan. 15, 1590. Anne, his wife, died March 17, 1607, aged 72.

The rectory originally went with the manor: in 1296 it belonged to Richard Fitzjohn, and was conveyed to the Beauchamp family, earls of Warwick, in which it continued till 1445, when it passed in marriage with the heiress Anne, to her husband, Richard Nevil, earl of Salisbury and Warwick, and to his son Richard, earl of Warwick, who being slain at Barnet field, in 1471, it passed to the crown, and was afterwards granted with the manor. But on the attainder of Robert Devereux, earl of Essex, in 1601, it was again forfeited, and has remained in the crown to the present time.

In 1821 there were one hundred and forty-seven inhabitants, and one hundred and forty-eight in 1831.

LACHINGDON WITH LAWLING.

This parish and hamlet extends from Mundon to the river Crouch. In records Lachingdon is also written Lacendun, Lachindon, and Lassenduna; and Lawling is also named Lallinge: distant from Maldon five miles, and from London thirty-eight. There is a fair here on the 2d of June.

Laching-
don with
Lawling.

Before the conquest, Alwin, Lewin, and eight other freemen, were the holders of the lands of this parish; which were in the king's hands at the time of the survey, and divided into manors, of which those in Lawling were more in number than those in Lachingdon. Phin, a freeman, had a manor at Lachingdon; and the church of Canterbury had a manor here and at Lawling: what is named Lainge also belonged partly to that church, and partly to Brun, a freeman; the two last were in the possession of Uluric Cassa, Ralph Peverel, and Eudo Dapifer, in 1087.

In the time of Henry the third, William de Lacindon was the owner of this estate, who had himself, or his ancestors, taken their family name from the place. He was presented and fined, in 1254, for having a knight's fee, and not being made a knight. Hugh de Lethendon, or Lachyndon, of the same family, died here in 1294: William de Lachindon was his son and successor, and died in 1312, leaving his brother Hugh his heir; on whose decease, in 1312, his successor was his son, John de Lachindon, the last of this family named in the record.

The King's
Manor.

Successive holders of this estate were William de Moton in 1328, and John Heyroun, who died in 1343. In 1348 it belonged to William Sayer, of Copford, succeeded by his son John, who died in 1350, whose son Richard, on his decease, in 1368, left his brother John his heir. In 1400 this estate belonged to sir John Bouchier, and continued in that noble family, till the close of the fifteenth, or the commencement of the sixteenth century; afterwards it seems to have been parcelled out with Tiled hall, and other manors in this parish. The present owner is Joseph Holden Strutt, esq.

BOOK II.

Tiled
Hall.

The mansion of this manor is near the church, on the east: this is the estate which belonged to Phin, and, on his death, to his widow, Ulueva. In 1298 it belonged to Henry Grapenell, who died in that year, leaving his four daughters his co-heiresses. Petronilla was married to John Fitzjohn; Margery to William Inge; Ionna to Adam Fitzjohn; and Margaret to Nicholas Havering. William Inge had this estate, and dying in 1321, left his daughter Joanna, married to Eudo de la Zouche, who, in her right, held this manor; out of which Margaret, wife of Nicholas Havering, received a yearly rent of four pounds in 1335. No further account is found of this manor till 1553, when it belonged to John Osborn, whose son Richard, his heir, was succeeded, in 1595, by his son of the same name, whose heir, on his decease in 1612, was his brother, John Osborn, who left only daughters his co-heiresses. Of these, Elizabeth was married to Richard Betenson, esq., and brought him this estate. They had three sons, Richard, Peter, and Edward of Colne-Engaine. Richard, the eldest son and heir, by Katharine, daughter of George Tuke, esq., of Laver Marney had his sons Richard and Thomas. Sir Richard Betenson, knt., the eldest son, married Anne, daughter of sir William Monyns, bart., by whom he had sir Richard, created a baronet in 1666, and Edward, who, in 1718, sold this estate to sir George Markham, bart.; and he, in 1736, gave it by will to Bernard Wilson, M.A. vicar of Newark-upon-Trent, of whom it was purchased in 1748 by Samuel Trew, and he conveyed it the same year, together with South Wallet and Peverells, to Edward Codd.

Lachen-
don
Manor.

The heroic Byrhtnoth, earl of Essex, gave this estate to the church of Canterbury; it was holden under the prior of Canterbury, by Philip Burnel, who died in 1294; he also held other estates here. Edward was his son, who, at the time of his decease in 1382, held this manor of the archbishop and church of Canterbury: sir Hugh Burnel held the same of the archbishop by fealty. Joyce, wife of Thomas Erdyngton, jun., Katharine Burnel, and Margery, wife of Edward Hungerford, were his cousins and heiresses. No further account being found of this manor, it is supposed to have been incorporated with the convent's larger manor here.

Lalling or
Lawling
Hamlet.

This hamlet anciently formed the larger portion of the parish, and contained three manors which, before the conquest, belonged to the Cathedral church of Canterbury, to Brun a freeman, and to Uluric Cassa. The church and priory retained their possessions till the time of the survey; and Ralph Peverel and Eudo Dapifer held the other two portions.

Lalling
Hall.

This estate was given to the church of Canterbury in the year 993, by Byrhtnoth, the brave earl of Essex, who was, the same year, slain in the battle against the Danes, fought at Maldon.* The prior and convent, or Holy Trinity, in Canterbury

* His grant is preserved in the Decem. Scriptorum, col. 2223; and king Æthelred's confirmation of this grant, in 1006, is in the manuscript library of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

(for it went under both these names) retained this possession till the dissolution of monasteries; and it was granted, by Henry the eighth, in 1542, with the manors of South-church, Milton-hall, Stisted, Bocking-hall in West Mersey, and Borleigh, to the dean and chapter of the Cathedral of Canterbury; but in 1545, these possessions were granted to sir Richard Rich, allowing the convent in exchange such estates as the same king thought proper to give. Sir Richard died, holding this estate, in 1566, as also did his son, Robert, lord Rich, in 1580, and after him his descendants, till it was purchased of the co-heiresses of Charles, earl of Warwick, by Thomas Western, esq.* It now belongs to Mrs. Hammond.

CHAP.
XVIII.

This manor was taken out of the lands belonging to the church of Canterbury. In 1323, John de Grey died possessed of it, and it successively belonged to his descendants, Henry de Grey, who died in 1342, and Reginald, in 1370; whose son, sir Henry de Grey, held this estate by the name of Snoreham, of the prior of Christ's church, Canterbury, in 1395; Elizabeth, his widow, held it in 1401; as did also their son, sir Richard Grey, in 1442; whose widow, Margaret, enjoyed it till her death in 1450. Succeeding accounts of the holders of this estate are imperfect and uncertain.

Little
Laching-
don.

A manor in Lawling, which had belonged to Brun, the Saxon, was in the possession of Ralph Peverel at the time of the survey, and on that account named Peverels; it appears to have gone with Tyled-hall to Richard Betenson, esq., in 1624, and to Edward Codd, gent.

Peverels.

Hill-house, vulgarly Hell-house, now a farm, was formerly a manor; it belonged to Uluric Cassa before the conquest, and to Eudo Dapifer at the time of the survey. This estate is in the southern part of the parish.

Hill
House.

Uleham is an estate formerly named the manor of Stainford. Before the conquest it belonged to Godere, and in 1483 was holden of the bishop of London, by Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, succeeded by his grandson Henry, from whom it descended to his only daughter Anne, marchioness of Northampton; on whose death, in 1570, it was granted, by queen Elizabeth, to Walter Devereux, viscount Hereford. The two reputed manors of Hill-house and Uleham afterwards went together, and belonged to Roger Grome, to Thomas, his son, succeeded by his son William Grome, and to Arthur Harris, esq., who died in 1597, leaving sir William Harris, his son, his heir, whose successor was sir Arthur Harris, his son.

Uleham.

The church is a small plain building, tiled. It is dedicated to St. Michael.

Church.

The foundations of a chapel are yet visible in the orchard belonging to Lawling-hall;

Chapel.

* The court-leet of Lalling is kept at Lalling hall; it has the title of Lawling with Snoreham; and Leigh-How in the parish of Parleigh, and Runsel hamlet, in Danbury, belong to it.

BOOK II. it was built for the ease and convenience of that part of the parish: distant two miles from the mother church.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to four hundred and fourteen, and in 1831 to four hundred and fifty-one.

SNOREHAM.

Snoreham. This is a very small parish, taken from Lawling and Purley since the survey of Domesday. The greater part of the lands belonged to the church of Canterbury, and are in the manor of Snoreham in Lachingdon, the other part is supposed to have been taken from Purley: it is distant from Maldon six miles, and forty-two from London.

The first institution of a parish here was some time previous to 1323, in which year John de Grey had possessions, and was succeeded by Reginald Grey, lord of Wilton; sir Henry Grey, sir Thomas, and sir John, had also the same, and presented to the church.* It appears by the presentations to have afterwards belonged to sir Giles Capel, in right of his wife, daughter of sir Robert Roos; to Hugh Dennis, esq., Thomas Grome, Arthur Harris, esq., and to Thomas Argall, esq., and his heirs; this family was seated at Great Badow. Thomas Argall, esq., marrying Anne, daughter of sir William Wyld, knt. and bart., one of the judges of the king's bench, had by her, Jane, wife of William Godwin, and Mary, wife of — Heyman, of Town-Malling, in Kent. Neither of these having issue, the estate was sold under a decree in chancery to Nathaniel Green, esq., who died in 1725, leaving Lucy, married to Raphael Courteville, esq.; and Katharine and Elizabeth, nuns. Mr. Courteville and his wife conveyed this estate to Mr. John Strutt, of Bileigh mills, in 1743; who gave it to his nephew, John Strutt, esq., and it has been retained by his descendants to the present time.

Church. The church was undoubtedly erected by some of its patrons of the noble family of Grey, of Wilton; it was dedicated to St. Peter. Some remains of it may be traced near the hall yard. The inhabitants resort to the church of Lachingdon, as being the nearest, and are there baptized and buried, and contribute to all parochial duties. However this is yet a rectory presentative, and a sermon is, or used to be, preached annually under a tree.

• The population is included in that of Lachingdon.†

* Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 53.

† Many years ago, a well was sunk by subscription, for the general use of Snoreham and Lachingdon; it is 337 feet deep, and cost 300*l.*, the clay-bed continuing nearly the whole depth. The strong soil of this district produces beautiful samples of wheat.

MUNDON.

This parish lies between Lawling and Blackwater bay; extending northward towards Northey island. Distant from Maldon three miles, and from London forty. Mundon.

In Edward the confessor's reign it belonged to Godwin, a king's thané; and at the time of the survey, to Eudo Dapifer, who gave the manor and advowson of the church to the abbey of St. John, which he had founded at Colchester.* On the dissolution of the abbey, in 1539, this estate was granted, with the rectorial tithes, to Thomas lord Cromwell; on whose attainder it passed again to the crown, and, in 1558, the manor of Mundon-hall was, by queen Mary the first, annexed, with other lordships, to the duchy of Lancaster. It was purchased by sir Thomas Wiseman, to be holden of the king, in fee farm. He was succeeded by his son, sir William; and the estate was afterwards sold to Thomas Western, esq., of Rivenhall. The manor house is at a short distance from the church northward. Lord Western is the present owner.

Eltney, or Iltney farm, near the channel, was part of what belonged to St. John's abbey, and was holden, with other estates, of queen Mary, by William Harrys, esq., in 1556; in 1608 it belonged to Ralph Breder, and afterwards to Dr. Thomas Plume, who settled it on his charitable foundation at Maldon.

The church is a small ancient building, dedicated to the Virgin Mary.† Church.

The population of Mundon, in 1821, amounted to three hundred and nine; decreased to two hundred and seventy-three in 1831.

STEEPLE WITH STANS_GATE.

From Mundon, Steeple extends eastward, and to the Blackwater on the north, including the isle of Ramsey. In Domesday book the name of this parish is Uluuinescherch, afterwards altered to Steeple. There are fairs, yearly, on the Wednesday in Whitsun week, and on the Wednesday after Michaelmas day. The distance from Maldon is five miles, and from London forty-two. Steeple.

Before the conquest, the owner of lands here were, Aluric, a freeman, four freemen in Uluuinescherch, and a freeman named Bondi. At the survey, the king had possession of what belonged to Bondi; what was in Uluuinescherch was claimed by Tedric Pointell; and Henry de Ferrers held of the king what had belonged to Bondi. There are two manors.

The mansion of the capital manor is on the north side of the church; in 1282, Hugh Fitz-Otto had this estate, which he held of sir Almeric Peche, in capite, by the Steeple Hall.

* Monastic. Angl. vol. ii. p. 843.

† It is remarkable that all the grave-stones in this church, anterior to the year 1772, have been defaced.

BOOK II.

fourth part of a knight's fee. Joanna, his daughter, was his heiress. In 1362, sir John de Aspale and Elizabeth his wife, had this estate: their two daughters were Katharine de Hemenhale, and Margery, married to sir George Felbrigge. Katharine had this lordship. In 1477, it belonged to John Field, who, dying in that year, was succeeded by his daughter Dorothy. In the commencement of the reign of Edward the third, it became the property of Bicknacre priory;* and was holden by Agnes Morton, widow, who died in 1517; Robert Morton was her son and heir. In 1537, Dorothy Filoll, widow, died holding this possession, which descended to her daughter, Anne Willoughby; Thomas Willoughby, probably her son, had this manor, which, on his death in 1559, descended to his brother, Francis Willoughby. In 1604 it belonged to sir Henry Billingsley; and afterwards was the property of the duchess dowager Montague. It now belongs to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, in London.

Steeple
Grange.

The Grange estate manor is what belonged to Henry de Ferrers at the time of the survey. The mansion is near the church on the south-east. In 1538, this estate was granted, by Henry the eighth, to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk, who, the same year, sold it to John Stonard; from whom it passed to George Stonard, esq., who died in 1358, holding the manor of Steeple Grange (according to the inquisition), part of the possessions of the priory of Tiltey. John Stonard succeeded his father, and died in 1579. The estate afterwards belonged to Clement Stonard, and to Francis Stonard, &c. who died in 1604, leaving his son Clement his heir. It afterwards belonged to Jonathan Boulter, and to James Roffey, esq. It is now the property of John Jolliff Tufnall, esq.

Stansgate.

Stansgate, a hamlet to this parish, is nearly on all sides surrounded by water. Before the conquest it belonged to Siward, and, at the time of the survey, was holden under Ralph Peverel, by Ralph Fitzbrien; who, about the year 1110, founded a priory at Great Brisete, in Suffolk, and made the church of Stansgate, with a third of the tithes of his lordship, and some lands, part of its endowment.†

Priory.

A priory for monks of the Cluniac order was founded here some time before the year 1176. It was dedicated to St. Mary Magdalen; and a cell to the priory of Lewes.‡ Besides other possessions, it had the manor of Stansgate, the priory manor of Stansgate, a water-mill, and several messuages, lands, and tenements, in Stansgate

* Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 559.

† This grant was confirmed by Richard de Belmeis bishop of London, and the deed particularly mentions, all the tithes both great and small, out of the whole demesnes of the lord of Steeple; and out of Henry Folliots; and all the tithes of Ramsey island; and out of Aylewelond, and Foteslond, and Raylewayle's. But only half of the tithe of earl Maurice's and Wintun's lands, of the fee of Steeple: and the like of all the lands of the parishioners of Steeple. Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 557.

‡ Monast. Angl. vol. i. p. 623.

and Steeple, and the tithes of Stansgate and Steeple.* After its dissolution, in 1525, it was granted to Cardinal Wolsey; on whose fall, in 1529, passing to the crown, it was granted, in 1536, except the living of the vicarage, to the hospital of St. John of Jerusalem in England; and was conveyed, by sir Thomas, the prior, in 1533, to Thomas and Richard Cocks; and, in 1543, was granted by Henry the eighth to Edward Mordaunt; who, in 1544, conveyed it to sir Richard Rich, lord Rich, who died in 1566, and from whom it passed to his descendants, earls of Warwick. This estate now belongs to — Kenrick, esq.

The church of Steeple, dedicated to St. Laurence, is an old building of mean appearance; and the only remains of the chapel or church of Stansgate are to be found in the walls of a barn. Church.

In 1821 the inhabitants of this parish amounted to five hundred and thirty-three; decreased to four hundred and ninety-seven in 1831.

MAYLAND.

Meilanda is the name given to this parish in ancient records; but it is not mentioned in Domesday. It lies southward from Steeple; distant six miles from Maldon, and forty from London. Mayland

There are two manors.

The mansion of the capital manor is near the church on the south: this estate was given to the monastery of St. Osyth (as is believed), by the founder, Richard Belmeis, bishop of London. After the dissolution of monasteries, it was granted by Henry the eighth, in 1525, to Cardinal Wolsey; and, after his praemunire was by the same monarch, conveyed to sir Richard Rich. In 1635 it belonged to Robert Wiseman, esq., and was afterwards given to St. Bartholomew's hospital, in London, by the munificent Edward Colston, esq.; together with the rectory and advowson of the vicarage. Mayland Hall.

This manor, in 1344, was holden by Thomas Baynard, under John Gernou, and the widow, Joane Baynard, had it at the time of her death in 1349; John Baynard was their son and heir. It was holden of the king, as of his honour of Peverel, by Bartholomew, lord Bouchier, who died in 1409, and his widow, Idonea, died in 1410. Their only daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, was married, first, to sir Hugh Stafford, and afterwards to sir Lewis Robessart; and died in 1433. This estate was holden by Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, in 1483; and belonged to Knipsho and Dredgers.

* In the inquest taken at Chelmsford in 1525, the jury found that this priory had fifty messuages, one thousand acres of arable, six hundred of pasture, two hundred of meadow, one hundred of wood, and twenty shillings of rent in those parishes.

BOOK II. **Anne, lady Bouchier, in 1570.* John Baker, esq., was the owner of this manor in 1635.**

Church. The church is a small building, pleasantly situated on an eminence; it is dedicated to St. Barnabas, and belonged, with the manor, to the abbey of St. Osyth; afterwards it was given to the church of St. Paul's, in London; but by an exchange made by Gilbert Foliot, bishop of London, in the time of Henry the second, it became again part of St. Osyth's possessions.

The rectory, or great tithes, were then appropriated to that abbey, and a vicarage ordained; both of which continued in the abbey till the dissolution. St. Bartholomew's hospital purchased them with the manor; and, in 1723, augmented the vicarage with 100*l.*, added to 100*l.* of Mr. Colston's benefactions, to which were added 200*l.* of Queen Anne's bounty.†

In 1821 the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and eighteen; and in 1831 to two hundred and twenty-six.

ALTHORN.

Althorn. This parish extends from Mayland to Cricksea; from east to west it is about three miles, and from the steeple of the church the prospect is widely extended, including Tiptree-heath, Danbury, Langdon hills, part of Kent, and the whole of Rochford hundred. There is a fair on the 5th of June. Distant from Maldon five miles, and from London forty.

In Domesday-book Althorn formed two estates, named Altenai and Eltenai; the former holden by Lestan in the Saxon era, and which Ralph held under Suene at the time of the survey. Eltenai, which had belonged to Ingelric, formed part of the possessions of Eustace, earl of Boulogne, at the survey. These were afterwards divided into three manors.

Manor of Althorn. Althorn hall is near the church, on the south, and the estate is what belonged to Suene; in 1203 it was the subject of a suit at law between Eustace Fitz-Thomas and William de Pontefract; and it had become the property of the abbot and convent of St. Osyth, sometime before the year 1303. This estate has long ceased to be a manor, and the lands were divided into three portions, one of which went

* In the records, Richard Baynard, who died in 1473, is said to have holden lands here, supposed to have been part of this estate, and the same was holden by Grace, his only daughter; married, first to Thomas Langley, and afterwards to Edward Daniel; she died in 1508, and was succeeded by her son and heir, John Daniel, esq., who, dying in 1566, was succeeded by his son, Edmund Daniel, esq., who died in 1570, and left John, his son, his heir.

† John Gawden, or Gauden, successively bishop of Exeter and Worcester, was born in this parish in 1605, and died in 1662. He was the author of *Icon Basilike*, and of numerous publications, among which were—*Hieraspistes*; or a Defence of the Church of England. *Ecclesiæ Anglicanæ suspiria*: the Tears, Sighs, Complaints, and Prayers of the Church of England.

with Mayland hall; a second part belongs to Southminster; and a third to the manor of Cage, in the same parish. These two were part of the estate of Thomas Brogrove, and of Berney Brogrove, esqrs. CHAP. XVIII.

This manor was named from Edmund de Stoke, the owner of it in the time of Edward the first. It is what belonged to Eustace, earl of Boulogne; and became the possession of Richard de Gravesend, who died in 1303; his son and heir was also named Richard. In 1328, it belonged to Alphonsus de Vere, the younger son of Robert, the sixth earl of Oxford; his son John was the seventh earl. In 1508 this manor belonged to Robert Darcy, esq., and to William Harrys, who died in 1556: successive owners of this family were Edward Harrys, esq., in 1574, sir William Harrys, knt., in 1616, sir Arthur Harrys, knt., his son; and sir Cranmer, the son of sir Arthur, in 1636. Stoke-Hall.

This estate is supposed to have been also taken from the possessions of Eustace. Hayrons. There is only an imperfect account of it. In 1540 it belonged to Anthony Higham: to Bartholomew Averell, who died in 1562, whose three daughters, Mary Sammes, Grace, and Elizabeth, were his co-heiresses. The next recorded possessor was Benjamin King, who died in 1628; succeeded by his son John King, on whose death, in 1634, his cousin, Thomas King, esq., was his heir.

Althorn Barns is understood to have been a more modern name applied to this manor: it was purchased by Mr. Thomson, merchant, who had three sons: Christopher, of Halsted and Wethersfield, John, and Adam; to the two youngest of these he left this estate. The house is near the west end of the church.

Three-Ash-Cottage, near Mayland end, is the pleasant country residence of T. S. Tatham, esq., of Bedford-place, London; the farm belonging to it contains about two hundred acres, which the proprietor has brought to a highly improved state, by a superior mode of cultivation. Three-ash-Cottage.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a small plain building. It belonged to the monastery of St. Osyth, and passed to various proprietors as the church of Mayland did.* Church.

In this parish, in 1821, there were three hundred and fifty-two inhabitants, and it was found to contain precisely the same number in 1831.

CRICKSEY, OR CRICKSEA.

This small parish is on the northern border of the river Crouch, and being near the creek of the sea, at the mouth of that river, it has been on that account named Crouchsea, by Norden. It is written in records, Criccheseia, Cricksey, Crixsey, Cricksey.

* On a stone in the church, "Pray for the soule of Willm. Hyklott, of Althorne, which paid for the workmanship of the walls of this church, and the same Willm. dyed 16 Sept. 1508." On another stone, "Of your charite pray for the soule of Margaret Hyklott, which deceased 27 Aug. 1502." Inscriptions.

BOOK II. Crixheth, Crixseth, Criksea, Crekeshuth, and Kryxhithe. Distant from Maldon nine miles, and from London, forty-two.

Aluuard had this estate in the time of Edward the confessor, and it belonged to Moduin at the time of the survey. There is only one manor.

Cricksea
Hall.

The manor-house is near the east end of the church. In 1320 John de Brianzon held lands here, of John de Chanceux, and of William Senault; and in 1375, lord Walter Fitzwalter held the manor of Cricksea of the king, which, on his decease, in 1386, descended to his son, Walter Fitzwalter, who died in 1407 or 1408. In 1498, Thomasine Hopton held it of Thomas Darcy, esq., and Robert Darcy died possessed of it in 1516. The Harrys or Harris family had a large brick mansion here, pleasantly situated and enclosed in a park, well stored with timber. Some remains of the outer court, and the site of the building, and of fish-ponds, are yet to be seen. The progenitor of this family was William Harrys, of Prittlewell, who, by Anne Jernagan, had Arthur Harrys, of Prittlewell, who married Joanna, daughter of Thomas Percy, second son of Henry, earl of Northumberland, and had by her, William Harrys, of Southminster, who held the manor of Cricksea of lord Rich, as of the honour of Rayleigh, by the service of one knight's fee; he had also many other estates. He died in 1555. He married first, Joanna, daughter and co-heir of John Smyth, of Norton; secondly, he married Joanna, daughter of — Cooke, of Bocking; and his third wife was Anne Rutter. By his first wife he had William, his heir, and Vincent, of Maldon. By the second he had Arthur Harrys, of Woodham Mortimer and Cricksea. William, the eldest son, besides the Great-house, and the estate in Prittlewell, had part of this estate, and various other possessions. Arthur Harrys, esq., of Woodham Mortimer and Cricksea, had this manor, with the advowson of the church. He married Dorothy, daughter of sir William Waldegrave, of Smallbridge, and dying in 1597, was succeeded by his son, sir William Harrys, on whose death, in 1616, he left, by Alice his wife, daughter of Thomas Smyth, of Westhanger, in Kent, John, his son and heir, and four daughters. John Harrys, esq., had Arthur, of Cricksea, William, of Lincoln's inn, Thomas, and Alice, married to sir Henry Mildmay, of Graces. Sir Arthur married, first, Anne, daughter and heiress of Robert Cranmer, of Charsted, in Kent; secondly, he married Anne, only daughter of sir Nicholas Salter, of Enfield, in Middlesex, widow of sir Henry Bowyer, knt., of Denham. By the second he had Salter Harrys, father of Edward, of Southminster; and by the first he had Craumer and John. He died in 1632, and was succeeded by his son, sir Cranmer Harrys, knt., who by his wife, Martha, daughter and co-heiress of Daniel Holford, esq., of West Thurrock, had two daughters, Anne and Mary.* Afterwards this estate was purchased by Thomas Western, esq., of Rivenhall. It now belongs to lady St. John Mildmay.

* Arms of Harrys :—Or, on a bend engrailed, azure three cinquefoils argent.

The church, a plain building, is dedicated to All Saints.

The population of this parish amounted to one hundred and fifty-two, in 1821; and in 1831, to one hundred and fifty-four.

CHAP.
XVIII.
Church.

BURNHAM.

This parish occupies the south-eastern extremity of the hundred, where the river Crouch discharges itself into the sea. The town consists principally of one good street, extending to the river, and there is a commodious quay. It had the grant of a market in the year 1348, to be holden on Tuesdays, and of a yearly fair in September; there are now two fairs yearly, on the 25th of April and the 4th of September. There is a very productive oyster fishery here; and a ferry conveys passengers and carriages to Foulness island. Distant from Maldon twelve miles, and from London forty-eight.*

Burnham.

Aluuart, a freeman, had the lands of this parish before the conquest, and at the survey they formed part of the possessions of Ralph Baynard; who had with this estate other lands which had belonged to ten freemen. There are now two manors.

The mansion of Burnham manor is a short distance northward from the church. Robert, son of Richard Fitzgilbert, succeeded Ralph Baynard in the possession of this estate, which, in 1285, belonged to Robert Fitzwalter; and to Walter Fitzwalter in 1386; in 1465, Elizabeth, widow of sir Walter Fitzwalter, died in possession of it; whose second daughter and co-heiress, Anne, conveyed it to her husband, Thomas Radcliffe, esq., from whom it passed to his descendants, viscounts Fitzwalter and earls of Sussex. Frances, daughter of Henry earl of Sussex, marrying sir Thomas Mildmay, knt., of Moulsham hall, it passed in her right, after the death of Robert Radcliffe, earl of Sussex, in 1629, to sir Henry Mildmay; succeeded by Benjamin and Charles, barons Fitzwalter, and to Benjamin, created viscount Harwich and earl Fitzwalter; and he dying without issue, in 1756, left this, among his other considerable estates, to his kinsman, William Mildmay, esq., afterwards sir William Mildmay, bart., of Moulsham hall. Mangax, or Mangapp, is the house where the court is called, from whence they adjourn to Burnham hall. In the court-rolls the estate is called Burnham with Mangapp, and Burnham Canons. The

Burnham
Hall.

* Much of the soil in the upland part of Burnham parish is a lightish loam, on a gravel bottom; and under the gravel an iron rag, and plum-pudding stone; some are fifteen inches square, and break with wet into powder; and under that quick-sands, in which are springs, which blow up, and do much mischief; these are cured by draining: but between the high land and the river Crouch, by the marshes, a light soil occurs, much of it suitable for turnips. A portion of it is wet, but improves as we advance toward the ocean, and is best of all at the farm on the south-east point, at the mouth of the river.—*Yonge.*

BOOK II. royalty of the river, eighteen miles in length, and one mile over, belongs to this lordship. The present owner is lady St. John Mildmay.

East and
West
Wicks.

The estates named Eastwick and Westwick, were named manors, and belonged to the priory of Dunmow, undoubtedly given to that house by the foundress, Jaga Baynard, or by some of the Fitzwalter family. They are supposed to be what in Domesday is named Weneswic, and belonged to Geoffrey de Magnaville; they are sometimes, in records, called half a fee, and sometimes a fee and three quarters. After the dissolution in 1543, these estates were granted to sir Richard Rich, who died in 1566, and they belonged to his grandson, Robert, earl of Warwick, who died in 1618; and after the death of Charles, earl of Warwick, in 1673, they passed to Robert, earl of Manchester, one of his co-heirs; of whose son Charles, the next earl, they were purchased by Benjamin, lord Fitzwalter. These estates now belong to lady Mildmay.

Warners.

Warners, or Holywell, is also a manor; the court holden under a tree. It was styled Holywell-marsh, and Twysleworth-marsh, in Burnham; it amounts to six hundred acres, and was granted to lord Rich in 1593,* and it now belongs to the right hon. W. P. T. L. Wellesley.

Church.

The church, dedicated to the blessed Virgin Mary, has a nave, north and south aisles, and chancel. It had formerly the loftiest tower of any church in this hundred, and was used as a sea-mark, but was blown down in the great wind; it has since been rebuilt. There is a handsome altar-piece, with a picture of the Last Supper; and the carved work of the pulpit and the font are well executed.†

This church was given by Walter Fitz-Robert, son of Richard Fitz-Richard, and grandson of Richard Fitz-Gilbert, to the priory of Dunmow. A vicarage was erected before the year 1243, for in that year its rights were confirmed by the dean and chapter of St. Paul's.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to one thousand and seventy-one, and in 1831, to one thousand three hundred and ninety-three.

SOUTHMINSTER.

South-
minster.

This parish extends north from Burnham, and its situation south from Tillingham and Dengey is supposed to have been the occasion of its name, which in records is Sudmaustra, and Sudmynstre. The town forms two small streets; and it has three

* Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 113.

Charities.

† Among the charities belonging to this parish is,—A field named Hide Croft, left for some unknown charitable or religious use.

A farm of considerable value belongs to a free school in Kent.

Daniel Williams, founder of the library in Redcross-street, London, in 1711, gave, by will, all his houses in Burnham to the Presbyterian meeting-house.

fairs—three days before Easter, nine days before Whit-sunday, and the 29th of September. Distant from Maldon ten miles, and from London forty-seven.*

CHAP.
XVIII.

The lands of this parish belonged to the bishop of London in the time of the Saxons; and part of it was holden under him by fifteen freemen. Canute took possession of it, but king William gave it again to William the bishop, after the conquest. There are two manors.

The mansion of the capital manor is near the church, on the west:† the lordship continued in the see of London till the year 1550, when it was conveyed by Dr. Nicholas Ridley to king Edward the sixth, who, the same year, granted it, with Lullingtons and Wriddells, to Thomas, lord Darcy, and it passed to his son and grandson, both lords Darcy, and named Thomas, of whom the latter sold this estate to Thomas Sutton, esq., who settled it upon his rich and useful foundation of the Charter-house.‡

South-
minster
Hall.

The mansion of the manor of Cage is a mile west from the church, and is understood to be the land held of the bishop by fifteen freemen. It belonged to Robert Fitzwalter, who died in 1328, and was retained by his descendants till it was conveyed to Roger Darcy, esq., who died in 1508, and left his son Thomas his heir. William Harrys, who died in 1556 was the next possessor of this manor, and it remained in his family till the death of sir Francis Harrys, who left only a daughter, married to — Laurence, M. D.

Cage Ma-
nor.

Sir John Leman, knt., born at Sallingham, in Norfolk, and lord mayor of London in 1616, was the next possessor of this estate; on whose death, in 1632, he was succeeded by his cousin and next heir, William Leman;§ and in 1635, Mrs. Mary Leman, daughter of Mr. Robert Leman, citizen of London, was lady of this manor, and about the close of the sixteenth century it belonged to Thomas Renda, esq., of Wallingford castle; it passed in marriage, with his only daughter, to Richard Bigge, esq., of Bear-court, in Pangborn, in Berkshire, who left it to his only daughter, married to John Cottingham, esq., of Wallingford, who died in 1745. The estate was afterwards sold to Mr. Robert Johnson, cornfactor, of London, who, dying in 1749, left it to his son, John Johnson, esq.

The Ray, a messuage and marsh in this parish, belonging to St. Osyth, or some other religious house, was granted by Henry the eighth to Thomas, lord Cromwell, in 1539; and in 1540 was by the same monarch assigned to his forsaken queen, Anne of Cleves.

The Ray.

* Average annual produce per acre, wheat twenty-six, barley forty-eight.

† On the east end of a barn, formerly a chapel, in the hall-yard, a stone bears a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation:—"In the year of the incarnation, 1573, this chapel was built in memory of the blessed Virgin Mary."

‡ Herne's History of the Charterhouse, p. 193.

§ Stow's and Strype's Survey of London, ed. 1720, b. ii. p. 187; and b. v. p. 141.

BOOK II. The church is a large and handsome building, dedicated to St. Leonard; the
Church. chancel of more modern erection, and in the tower five bells.*

Richard de Belmeis, bishop of London, gave this church to the abbey of St. Osyth; and it was afterwards, in 1151, taken from that appropriation, and given to the treasurer of St. Paul's cathedral,† but Gilbert Foliot, bishop of London, transferred it again to the abbey; and a vicarge was ordained and endowed by William Sancta Maria, in 1219, the advowson of which, with the rectory, continued in the convent till the dissolution. The advowson of the vicarage was granted, with the rectory, to sir Richard Rich, whose son conveyed them to Edward Heron, esq., and Francis Albany, from whom, passing to Thomas Sutton, esq., he settled them, with the lordship, on the Charterhouse.

In 1821, there were one thousand four hundred and forty-five; and in 1831, only one thousand four hundred and twenty-two inhabitants.

ASHELDHAM.

**Asheld-
ham.**

The name of Acleta, in Domesday-book, is understood to have been applied to this parish; in other records it is named Asseldham, Ashelden, Ashdon, Ashildham, Axildeham, Esseldesham. It lies between Southminster and Dengey, extending to the sea-shore. This small parish is not two miles across in any direction. Distance from Maldon nine miles, and forty-six from London.

Before the conquest the owner of these lands was named Modinc, and at the survey they belonged to Eudo Dapifer, whose undertenant was named Richard. There are three manors.

**Asheld-
ham Hall.**

The mansion of this manor is near the church, on the south-east; the estate belonged to William de Horkesleigh, who died in 1332, whose heir was John de Roos, his nephew, grandson of Robert de Roos, and Alesia, daughter and heiress of sir Robert Asheldham. Sir John de Roos died in 1373, and the lady Alesia in 1375. Their son John died before them, but they had also a daughter named Elene, who became heir to her nephew; and being married to sir Geoffrey de Brockhole, conveyed to him this estate. She died in 1419, leaving her daughters Joane and Margery her co-heiresses; but the estate had previously become the property of Bartholomew, lord Bouchier, who died possessed of it in 1409, and it was retained by his descendants till, on the forfeiture of Henry, the last earl, it passed to the crown, and was

Charities.

* Plumborough-marsh forms part of the endowment of the Free-school at Chelmsford.

Mr. Knewstub, rector of Cockfield, in Suffolk, some time Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, gave an annuity of eleven pounds out of lands called Squire's lands in Southminster and Steeple, twenty shillings to the college, and ten pounds towards the exhibition of two poor scholars.

† Dugdale's History of St. Paul's, p. 10.

afterwards, in 1571, granted by queen Elizabeth, to Walter Devereux, viscount Hereford, heir-at-law to Anne, marchioness of Northampton. In 1635, Hester Conham, widow, was lady of this manor. It belonged to Mr. James Marrener, who died in 1746, who, before his death, sold it to George Wegg, esq., of Colchester. This, and the other estates of this parish, now belong to lord Petre and others.

The name of Newhall, and also of Brockhole's, has been given to this estate. The house is near the church, on the east. This, with the manor of Asheldham hall, descended from Geoffrey de Brockhole to his daughters Joane and Margery. Joane had three husbands, Philip Kedington, Thomas Aspoll, and Robert Armburgh, but had no issue by any of them: she died in 1443, possessed of this manor. Margery was married to John Sumpter, of Colchester, and had by him her son and heir, John, who died many years before his aunt Joane, leaving his daughters, Cristina and Ellen, his co-heiresses.

The next possessor of this estate was sir Ralph Warren, lord mayor of London in 1536. He was the grandson of William Warren, of Feering, and had two wives, Christian and Joane.* On his death he was succeeded by his son, Richard Warren, who, dying in 1597, Oliver Cromwell, esq., the son of his sister Joanna, succeeded to this estate, and sold it in 1598, with Great Easton, to Henry Maynard, esq. (afterwards sir Henry): and in 1621, Susannah, lady Maynard, and her son, William, lord Maynard, conveyed it to sir Henry Mildmay, of Graces; and he, by will, dated May 8, 1639, gave this manor to his son, Henry Mildmay, esq., who built a good house here, in which he resided; he died in 1692, leaving this estate to Frances, the third of his four daughters, co-heiresses. She was married to Christopher Fowler, who sold it in 1705, and it passed, as the other manor, to George Wegg, esq., and to lord Petre.

This is supposed to have been derived from the other manor, on the division of the Brockhole estates between the heiresses. In 1537 it belonged to sir Thomas Bedingfield, whose son and heir was Thomas Bedingfield, clerk. It was afterwards conveyed to Roger Higham, esq., who, dying in 1557, left his son William his heir. In 1635 it belonged to sir Peter Vanlore and others; and now belongs to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London.

The church is a plain building, with a square tower, the nave and chancel of one pace; it is dedicated to St. Laurence, and was given by Robert, son of Godebold, to the priory of Little Horksley,† to which the great tithes were appropriated, and a vicarage ordained, of which the bishop of London reserved the collation to himself, and which his successors have retained to the present time.

* Stow and Strype's Survey of London, ed. 1720, b. iii. p. 28; and b. v. p. 131.

† Monast. Angl. vol. iii. p. 30.

BOOK II. In 1821, there were one hundred and fifty-six inhabitants; but only one hundred and forty-four in 1831.

DENGEX.

Dengey. This parish is on the sea-coast, between Tillingham and Southminster, occupying a portion of marsh ground, which forms a square of two miles. The name is from the Saxon Danesig, or Dane's island, having formerly been a landing-place, or strong hold of those people, in their plundering expeditions. It is eight miles from Maldon, and forty-five from London.

Siric was the owner of this estate in the time of Edward the Confessor, and at the survey it belonged to Odo, bishop of Bayeux; and other lands here belonged to the abbey of St. Valery, in Picardy. There are two manors.

Dengey
Hall.

Dengey hall is near the west end of the church. It is not known to whom, or at what time after Odo's forfeiture, this estate was granted from the crown, but in the time of Henry the second, Roger de Cramavill was in possession of it; and Henry de Cramavill, probably his son, had this lordship in 1284, and died in 1298, leaving his sister, Ela, his heiress; but Joanna, his widow, held a third part of it in dower, till her decease in 1314. John de la Mare is supposed to have married Ela, and to have had this estate, but the account is rather confused. Florence, wife of Philip de Oreby, appears to have been their daughter, and had this manor at the time of her death in 1321; her daughter Florence, wife of De Oreby, was her next heir. She was afterwards remarried to Nicholas Fraunceys, and had this manor till her decease in 1344: sir John de Oreby, her son by her first husband, was her heir, who, dying in 1353, left John, who died young, and Joanna, married to Henry de Percy, senior, by whom she had Mary, married to sir John de Roos, of Hamlake; and on her death without issue, in 1394, this estate passed by heirship to John de la Mare, citizen of London, descended from William, brother of John de la Mare, above mentioned. But on the rebellion of the Percies, in 1403, the crown seized this estate, which belonged to John of Lancaster, duke of Bedford, third son of Henry the fourth, which is stated to have been granted to him by his father, and to have been lands forfeited by Henry de Percy for rebellion: the said John died in 1435. By the presentations to the living it appears to have belonged to the Woodville family, from 1445 to 1459, and was in the possession of sir Geoffrey Gate, who died in 1477, whose son William was his heir; he was the father of sir Geoffrey Gate who also had this estate. It is not known how it passed again to the crown; but Henry the seventh founding the hospital of the Savoy, in the Strand, in London, endowed it with this manor and the advowson of the church, and the masters and chaplains of the hospital presented to the living from 1504 to 1535.

The hospital was suppressed in 1551, by Edward the sixth, who granted this

manor, with other lordships in this county, first, to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, and afterwards, in 1553, to the mayor and commonalty of London. Queen Mary restored it to the Savoy hospital in 1556: but on its being a second time suppressed, this estate passed to the crown, and was granted by queen Elizabeth, in 1560, to Thomas Fanshaw, esq., who afterwards purchased the manor of Barking, and other estates in Essex; his immediate successors were the right hon. Thomas and Charles, viscounts Fanshaw, &c. This estate belongs now to their descendant, Captain Henry Fanshaw.*

The manor house of Bacons is half a mile north from the church. This estate is what anciently belonged to the abbey of St. Valery, in Picardy, of which it was holden in 1282 by Gilbert Bacon, from whom its name has been derived: in that year he had a license from Henry de Cramavill, lord of the capital manor and patron of the church, to build a free-chapel here. Duncfrid, son of Gilbert Bacon, in 1302, granted this manor, with the advowson or portion of tithes belonging to it, to Ralph Bygood; and in 1378, Henry Folvill released the said manor, and the advowson of a certain chantry there, to Walter Bygood who, with Isabel, his wife, held the same of the abbot of Bileigh: he died in 1398. William was his son and heir, but is no further named in the record. Isabel, his father's widow, was remarried to John Doreward, who kept a court here in 1399. The said Isabel died in 1417, and her heiresses were her daughter, Catharine, wife of Robert Hunt, and Isabella, daughter of another of her daughters named Margaret. Isabella was married to Thomas Darell, or Dayrell, gent.

In 1465, Simon Harvey kept his first court here, as did Isabel, his widow, in 1473; and in 1481, Richard Baxter enfeoffed Isabel Harvey, and others, in a moiety of this manor, with the advowson of the chapel or chantry. Isabel was remarried to Thomas Daniel, and died in 1489, and Thomas, her son and heir, died in 1491, and was succeeded by his son of the same name, on whose decease, in 1498, he left by his wife, Christian, his two daughters, Beatrix and Anastatia. Christian, the mother, was remarried to Roger Bottyll, esq., who kept a court here in 1500. The said Christian died in 1508. The two daughters were in the guardianship of Thomas Jermyn, esq., of Rushbrook, whose son Robert married Beatrix; and Anastatia was married to his brother, Francis, but neither of them had any issue; yet the estate continued in the Jermyn family, till it was sold, in 1605, by Ambrose Jermyn, to sir Thomas and sir Henry Mildmay, knts., in whose family it continued till it passed by female heirship to Christopher Fowler, who, in 1705, conveyed it to John Walter; from whom, in 1707, it passed to Thomas Fullerton, esq., and became the

* An annuity of twenty pounds is paid to the Savoy, in London, out of this estate. Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 212.

BOOK II. property of Mr. George Wegg, and of his son of the same name. It now belongs to lord Petre and others.

Church. The church is dedicated to St. James, and is a plain building, tiled.

This parish, in 1821, contained two hundred and thirty-four inhabitants; and two hundred and forty-nine in 1831.

TILLINGHAM.

Tillingham. From Dengey this parish extends to Bradwell, and the ground rising from the marshes is considerably elevated where the village and the church are situated. It is distinguished by the goodness of the roads, and a supply of spring water superior in quality to what is generally found in this part of the country. It is two miles in length from east to west, and one mile in breadth. Distant ten miles from Maldon, and from London forty-seven. There are fairs here on Whitsun-Tuesday and on the 16th of September.*

Tillingham Hall. Ethelbert, king of Kent, gave the lands of this parish to the church of St. Paul's, in London, of which he was the founder;† at the survey it had retained this possession, and has continued to hold it to the present time. Tillingham hall is near the church on the north.

Pakkards. Pakkards is a manor, of which the mansion is in this parish, but the greater part of the lands in Bradwell. In 1493, William Felton died, holding this estate of the manor of East hall, in Bradwell: his successors were his son Edmund in 1519; and his grandson of the same name, who died in 1570, who left Thomas his son his heir.

Perie. A tenement named Perie, and sometimes styled a manor, was holden in 1426, of the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, by William Hanningfield. It was afterwards in possession of the Felton family, and of sir Arthur, and Cranmer Harris.

Tillingham Grange. Tillingham Grange is two miles south-east from the church, in the marshes. Thomas Cowstone, burnt for being a protestant, had this estate in 1553, and had with it an estate named Mowick, supposed to be what is named Midlins. These afterwards belonged to the Fanshaw family, and to Mr. Hollingsworth.

Reculverland and Wildland. The corps of the prebends of Reculverland and Wildland are in this parish; the first a quarter of a mile, the other half a mile from the church. They have a court-leet and court-baron. The corps of Edland was also in this parish.

Church. The church is on a high ground, and dedicated to St. Nicholas. Formerly it had a south aisle, which being in a state of decay, was pulled down, and the church put in a state of complete repair, at the expense of the parish, in 1708: it is handsomely

* Average annual produce per acre, wheat twenty-six bushels; barley forty-eight.

† Dugdale's History of St. Paul's.

pewed, with a gallery at the west end. The walls of the ancient building are of extraordinary thickness, and a strong tower of stone contains five bells.*

CHAP.
XVIII.

The rectorial, or great tithes, are appropriated to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, who are ordinaries of this place, and patrons of the vicarage.

Dr. William Clarke, dean of Winchester, and vicar of Stepney, having a lease of Tillingham hall, with the demesne lands and great tithes of the marshes of Hellwick, Middlewick, and Weatherwick, by his will, dated 1679, devised the clear profits of that estate, for augmenting ten small vicarages, or other ecclesiastical benefices, with cure, to pay to the incumbents of each of them thirty pounds a year, and the augmentations to be in such parishes where the impropriations are in the hands of laymen, and if it may be, in market towns and populous parishes. The benefices he himself named were, the vicarage of Buckingham, the rectory of the abbey-church of St. Albans, some convenient church to Maldon, and Stony-Stratford, in Buckinghamshire. Dedham and Hatfield Regis, and some other churches, have been since added by the trustees.

Sir William Mouduit, for himself and Amabil his wife, and for his heirs and the souls of all his ancestors, gave four acres of land in Westfield, in this parish, to the church of St. Paul; and Geoffrey de Luci, then dean, and the chapter granted him leave, considering the difficulty of access to the parish church in the winter time, to build a chapel in his court of Culvershyde for his own use, under such conditions as private chapels are usually built.†

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to nine hundred and forty-six: and to nine hundred and seventy in 1831.

ST. LAURENCE, OR LAWRENCE.

The name of this parish in Domesday is Newland, which, after the dedication of the church, took the name of its patron saint. It has Tillingham on the east, and the bay of Blackwater northward. It is eight miles from Maldon, and from London forty-five.‡

St. Laurence.

West Newland belonged to the priory of the Holy Trinity, or Christ Church, in Canterbury, both before and after the conquest. East Newland belonged to Ingwar in the reign of Edward the confessor, and at the survey was holden by Ralph, brother of Ilger. There are three manors.

* In the south aisle of the chancel are four niches; in one of which a brass-plate bears an inscription to inform us that Edward Wyatt, esq. lies here, who died in July 1584. His effigy is in a devotional posture, with a book before him, and the words, "O God, my God." Inscip- tions.

† Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 599.

‡ The land on the hills in the vicinity of St. Laurence (observes Mr. Young) is strong and tenacious, on a stiff clay. Average annual produce per acre, wheat twenty-four, barley thirty-two bushels.

BOOK II.

St. Laurence
Hall.

The manor-house of St. Laurence is near the church on the south. The first recorded holder of this manor was Roger Baynard, who died in 1295, leaving his nephew, Thomas Baynard, his heir. Joane, his widow, had the reversion of it, holden by knights' service, of John Fitzwalter; and it was enjoyed by Roger Baynard, and Alice his sister, during their lives. It belonged to sir John Shaa, lord mayor of London in 1501, who dying the following year, left Edmund or Edward his son his successor, on whose decease, in 1532, Alice, his only daughter, was his heiress. The estate afterwards belonged to Richard Weston, one of the justices of the king's bench, who died in 1572: sir Jerom Weston was his son and heir, who died in 1603. It belonged successively to sir Robert Clarke, in 1606, and to Robert his son: to sir John Leman, in 1632, and to William his son and heir. In 1745 it belonged to Theodosius Joseph Mason, esq.

West New-
land Hall.

This manor formed part of the possessions of the priory of Holy Trinity in Canterbury, in the time of the Confessor, and at the survey. In 1276 it was holden of the priory by Robert Ledett, who, dying in that year, left it to his son Richard. Passing afterwards to the crown, king Edward the third settled it on his female favourite, Alice Perrers, who had this possession in 1377. Sir William de Wyndesore, having married Alice Ferrers,* had this estate, which, in 1508, belonged to Robert Rochester, succeeded by his son and heir, William Rochester, on whose death, in 1558, John his son was his heir. William Austen, esq., who died in 1633, held this manor of Robert, earl of Warwick, and in 1744 it belonged to the rev. Benjamin Slocock.

East New-
land.

This estate belonged to Inguar in the reign of Edward the confessor, and at the survey to Ranulf, brother of Ilger, whose undertenant was named William. Belonging afterwards to St. John's abbey, in Colchester, it was given, on the dissolution, to Thomas, lord Cromwell; from whom, passing again to the crown, it was granted, in 1541, to George Cely, who, the same year, conveyed it to John Coker, who, dying in 1551, left his brother Robert his heir. Ralph Browninge had this estate at the time of his decease in 1608, and was succeeded by Richard Browninge, his brother. In 1745 it belonged to Anthony, dean of Harwich, who, in 1750, sold it to Arthur Dabbs, gent., of Hatfield Peverill, who died in 1751, having bequeathed this estate to Samuel Trew, gent.

Church.

• The church is a plain, ancient building, on a hill; it is dedicated to St. Laurence. This church was given to the abbey of Bileigh by Robert Mantel, the founder of that monastery, and that appropriation was confirmed by Richard the first, in 1189.† The monks, taking the rectorial tithes, ordained a vicarage; but in 1438 the appropriation was dissolved, and the church again made a rectory, of which the

* Sir William Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 510.

† Monastic. Anglic. vol. ii. p. 626.

advowson remained in the abbot and convent till their dissolution; and has remained in the crown to the present time.

CHAP.
XVIII.

This parish in 1821 contained two hundred and twenty-nine inhabitants, and only one hundred and eighty-two in 1831.

BRADWELL.

The north-eastern extremity of the hundred is occupied by this parish, which extends eastward to the German Ocean, and northward to Blackwater-bay, the Fluvius Idumanus of the Romans. The appellation of Juxta Mare has been added to the name of this place, to distinguish it from Bradwell, near Coggeshall. It is four miles in length from north to south, and three in breadth from east to west. There is a fair on the twenty-fourth of June. From Maldon it is distant eleven miles, and from London forty-eight.*

Bradwell.

The name given to this parish in the record of Domesday, is Effecestre, formed, as is supposed, from eth or effe, a contraction of the word othona, with the addition of cestre, by the Saxons generally affixed to names of places where there had been Roman castra, camps, or stations; and most of the ancient historians are of opinion that Othona was situated here. Mr. Camden observes, “Higher up than Tillingham, towards the northern shore, stood once a flourishing city, called by our ancestors, Ithancester;” for thus Bede, and Ralph Niger, monk of Coggeshall, tell us; “Cedd built churches in several places, ordaining priests and deacons to assist him in the word of faith, and ministry of baptizing; especially in the city which, in the language of the Saxons, is called Ithancester;† which stood upon the bank of the river Pant, that runs near Maldon, in the province of Dengley; but that city hath since been swallowed up in the river Pant. I cannot,” adds Mr. Camden, “exactly point out the place; but that the river Froshwell was heretofore called Pant, I am pretty confident, because one of its springs still keeps the name of Pants well; and the Monk of Coggeshall, speaking of it, uses the same appellation. Some think this Ithancester to have been seated in the utmost point of Dengley hundred, where stands at present St. Peter’s on the wall. I am inclined to believe that this Ithancester was the same as Othona, the station of the band of the Fortenses, with their provost, in

* The soil is highly productive; the best vein in the parish extends from the church to St. Peter’s chapel, being a deep, friable, mellow mould. The small field between the chapel and the sea, resembles a black garden mould, of unbounded fertility. These rich lands formed a theatre worthy of the efforts of the most distinguished cultivator in Essex, the rev. Henry Bate Dudley, whose agriculture and improvements embraced every object that an ardent mind could speculate on, and great skill conduct to a successful result. His exertions in building, draining, embanking, road-making, manuring, &c. were in a superior style, and became an example that will not soon be forgotten.—See Young’s Agriculture of Essex.

† Bede, Eccl. Hist. b. iii. ch. 22.

BOOK II. the declension of the Roman empire; who were placed here under the count of the Saxon shore, to secure the coast against the pirating Saxons. For Othona might very easily pass into Ithana; and the station in a creek at the mouth of several rivers, was very convenient for such a design."* We are informed by Philemon Holland that there was formerly the remnant of a huge ruin here, near which numerous Roman coins were found.

On the well-grounded presumption that this is the district named Effecester, in Domesday, it is further to be remarked, that it belonged to Turchill and Ingulf, two freemen, in the time of Edward the Confessor; and at the survey the abbey of St. Valery, in Picardy, had one part; and Hugh de Montfort, and his under tenant, Ulnar, the other. There are four manors.

Bradwell
Hall.

The mansion of this manor is near the brook of Tillingham, a mile and half south-west from the church. The lands which belonged to Hugh de Montfort form this manor; which, afterwards passing to the crown, was granted by king Henry the second, to his brother William, who gave it to Thomas Bardolf, to hold by the service of one knight's fee; and he gave three parts of it with his three daughters; married to Robert de St. Remy; William Bacon: and Baldwin de Thony. When Philip, king of France, wrested Normandy out of the possession of king John, he seized the lands of the Normans, among which were the two portions belonging to Robert de St. Remy and William Bacon, which the king gave to Thomas Fitz-Barnard; but the fourth part of this lordship, with the advowson of the church, was left by Thomas Bardolf to his son, Doun Bardolf, who married Beatrice, daughter and heiress of William Warren, Baron of Wormgay, in Norfolk, with whom that lordship came to him. The family of Bardolf retained this possession till 1403, when Thomas lord Bardolf, joining in a conspiracy against Henry the fourth, was in an engagement at Hazelwood, in Yorkshire, and died of his wounds:† his lands were therefore confiscated. He left two daughters; Anne, married to Sir William Clifford; and Joane, the wife of William Phelip, esq. In 1404 this estate was given by Henry the fourth, to his third son, John, duke of Bedford, who dying without issue, it passed again to the crown, and in 1485 was given, by Henry the seventh, to Elizabeth, queen dowager of Edward the fourth; and it was afterwards leased out to William Wyatt, for forty years. In 1539, king Henry the eighth gave it, with other estates, to his cast off queen, Anne of Cleves; and in 1588, queen Mary annexed it to the Duchy of Lancaster. In 1604 it was granted, by king James the first, to Walter Mildmay; and he sold it to Thomas White, D.D., who kept his first court here in 1609.

* Camden's Britannia, in Essex; and Holland's Additions to Camden.

† For an account of this family see Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 681. &c.

This was formerly a distinct estate, but now forms part of the manor of Bradwell. In 1286, William de Montchensi held the manor of Pilton of Henry de Cram'ville. John de la Mare also held lands in Pilton, in Bradwell; and Elianor, his widow, and Florence, their daughter, held the same: this Florence was married first to Philip de Orreby, and afterwards to Nicholas Fraunceys. Sir John de Orreby, son of Philip and Florence, had this estate, which afterwards, with Bradwell and other manors, belonged to Alice Perrers. Afterwards the manors of Pilton-fee and Bradwell-hall went together. The steward goes to Bradwell-street, named Pilton-fee, and calls the court there, and then adjourns it to Bradwell-hall. It belongs to Sion college, London.

Pilton-
Fee.

Emeric Battaile, who died in 1252, held this manor of the king; and it has received its name from him. Saer Battaile was his son and heir, and died in 1292; Edmund was his son; but in 1298, Anne, daughter and co-heir of sir Richard Battaile, and wife of Peter de Taleworthe, had this estate in purparty. Edmund died in 1333. In 1540, Anthony Higham, esq., died, holding this manor, and leaving Robert, his son, his heir. In 1581, Stephen Brooke died in possession of this estate, and left Sarah and Elizabeth, his daughters, his co-heiresses. Henry Carter, the next recorded owner, died in 1629; Henry was his son and heir. In 1772, Theodosius Joseph Mason, esq., was the owner of this estate.

Battails.

The manor-house of Dounhall is half a mile north from the church. Modine and three freemen were owners of this estate before the Conquest; and at the survey it belonged to Eudo Dapifer, whose under-tenant was Richard; and to Ralph Peverell.

Dounhall.

Henry de Tipetot is recorded to have held lands here, by the service of carrying a lance in the king's army. John de la Dune took his name from this place, and held the manor by the serjeancy of carrying a sword in the king's army. Successive owners of this estate, belonging to this family, were Thomas, in 1281; Margaret at Donne, his daughter, who died in 1343, and was succeeded by her daughter Joane, wife of John de Cock; Edward de Donne, who held this estate in fee-tail; and Robert de la Donne, who died in 1502; William was his son and heir: the estate in that year was conveyed to John Rainesford, from whom it passed to Thomas Christmas, and it was sold by him to George Christmas, in 1551, and in 1565 he died possessed of it. John was his son and heir; and in 1580, sold Dounhall to Walter Mildmay, esq., and he, in 1584, conveyed it to Thomas (afterwards sir Thomas) Mildmay, of Springfield Barnes, who, dying in 1612, was succeeded by William Mildmay, esq., his grandson. It afterwards belonged to Richard Everard, of Great Badow, and he left it to Richard Merkes, esq., of Springfield, who sold it to Michael Herde, of this parish, of whom it was purchased by Benjamin Hoare, esq., who again sold it to — Clarke, esq. It now belongs to Thomas T. Clarke, esq.

BOOK II. The manor-house of East-hall is a mile north-east from the church. This estate belongs to New College, Oxford.

East Hall.

Brocksey Sands.

This estate was formerly named Brocksey Park, or Marsh; it is three miles from Bradwell-hall, nearer Tillingham on the south-east, from which it is parted by a channel three fathoms deep, and half a mile over. Sir John de la Mare had license to inclose it; and in 1308, he gave leave to the prior of St. Valery to have a way through it for cattle to their marsh named Gurmonds, when the height of the tide hindered their passage the other way.

Bradwell Lodge.

This elegant villa, formerly the seat of the rev. sir H. B. Dudley, bart. the incumbent of the living of Bradwell-juxta-mare, in which parish it stands, is situated nearly in the centre between the rivers Blackwater, Crouch, and Colne, which here join the German Ocean. The lodge, which was erected by J. Johnson, esq., the architect of the shire-hall, at Chelmsford, between the years 1781 and 1786, is a very elegant building. A beautiful observatory, ornamented with Ionic columns, which have been so contrived as to form the chimneys of the whole building, has been constructed on its top. Many decoys for catching wild fowl are in the vicinity.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Thomas, was rebuilt in 1706; it has a stone tower, surmounted by a lofty spire, and has eight bells.* The high ground where this church is situated, commands a pleasing view of the sea, with an extensive prospect along the coast.

The living has a glebe of 184 acres.

A chapel anciently named Capella de la Val, or St. Peter ad Murum, was on the north-east point of the parish by the sea; it was dependent on Bradwell, and a chapel of ease to it, whose rector must find a priest to officiate on Sundays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. A jury found, in 1442, that it had a chancel, nave, and small tower with two bells; that it was burnt, and the chancel repaired by the rector, and the nave by the parishioners: when it was founded, and by whom, they knew not. Some remains of this building have been made to form part of a barn.

This parish, in 1821, contained nine hundred and four inhabitants, and nine hundred and fifty-six in 1831.

Charities.

* Thomas White, D.D. gave the manor of Bradwell, with Pilton-fee, for the founding of *Sion* College, in London, and to build an alms-house at Bristol, where he was born.

There is a free-school here, supported by a piece of land behind the Globe Tavern, at Mile-end: the endowment is forty pounds a year, and the master lives in the school-house, and is appointed by the rector.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN DENGIE HUNDRED.

R. Rectory.	V. Vicarage.	† Discharged from payment of first-tiths.			
Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Althorne, V.	Essex	Henry Fothergill ...	1830	†14 0 0	J. Robinson.
Asheldham, V. ....	.....	W. W. Dakins, D.D..	1817	†16 13 4	Bishop of London.
Bradwell near the } Sea, R. .... }	.....	Thomas Schrieber ..	1820	48 0 0	Rev. T. Schrieber.
Burnham, V. ....	.....	C. A. St. J. Mildmay	1826	22 13 4	L. Jane Mildmay.
Cold Norton, R. ....	.....	W. Holland	1824	16 13 4	Gov. of Charterhouse.
Cricksea, R. ....	.....	Henry Fothergill ...	1830	† 9 8 10	J. Robinson.
Dengey, R. ....	.....	J. H. Stevenson	1825	13 0 0	Rev. J. H. Stevenson.
Fambridge, N. R. ....	.....	Wm. Steph. Gilly ..	1817	†14 13 4	Lord Chancellor.
Hazeleigh, R. ....	.....	G. Parry Marriott ..	1804	† 4 13 4	Mrs. Irwin.
Latchingdon, R.	Pecul.	Robert Moore	1804	37 0 0	Archbp. of Canterbury.
Maldon, All Saints, } and St. Peter, V. }	.....	Ch. Matthew	1809	10 0 0	Rev. Chas. Matthew.
St. Mary, R. ....	.....	Bridge Trevor, D.D. ....	....	Not in charge.	Dn. & Ch. Westminster.
Mayland, R. ....	.....	T. S. Griffin hose	1805	†13 6 8	Gov. St. Barth. Hospl.
Mundon, V.	Essex	Under Sequestration	....	13 0 0	Chan. D. of Lancaster.
Purleigh, R. ....	.....	E. Hawkins, D.D. .	1828	25 0 0	{ Ann to Provostship of Oriel Col. Oxford
Snorum, R. ....	.....	Thos. Foot Gower ..	1810	3 0 0	J. Strutt, esq.
South Minster, V. ...	.....	J. A. Scott, D.D.	1803	21 0 0	Gov. of Charterhouse.
Stangate, R. ....	.....	Vicar of Steeple	1828	Not in charge.	W. Steeple, Vicar.
Steeple, V. ....	.....	F. Custance	1828	†15 18 0	J. K. Hunt and others.
Stowmaries, R. ....	.....	Edward Smyth	1823	18 6 8	Rev. G. H. Storie.
St. Lawrence, R. ....	.....	J. B. Carwardine ...	1829	18 6 8	Lord Chancellor.
Tillingham, V.	Pecul.	E. J. Beckwith	1815	25 3 9	Dn. & Ch. of St. Paul's.
Woodham Mort, R.	Essex	Jos. G. Round	1830	6 13 4	Ex. Rev. A. C. Bullen.
Woodham Walter, R. ....	.....	Guy Bryan	1819	12 13 1½	Rev. L. Way.

CHAPTER XIX.

HUNDRED OF THURSTABLE.

THIS hundred on the south is bounded by the river Pant, and Maldon-river or Blackwater-bay; on the west and north-west by Witham hundred, northward by that of Lenden, and on the east by the hundred of Winstree. Its greatest length from east to west is eleven miles, and from north to south, where broadest, six miles. The name in Domesday and other records, Turestapla, is of uncertain origin.* At

* Norden supposed Thurstable a corruption of Staplehurst, *i. e.* Staplewood, from a place so called on Tiptree heath, west of the priory.—Introduction to the History of Middlesex, p. 22.

BOOK II. the time of the survey, this hundred was in the possession of the king, who had four salt-works here in the custody of the sheriff;* and three men held ten acres of land. It contains the following ten parishes:—Heybridge, Langford, Wickham-Bishops, Great Totham, Little Totham, Goldanger, Tolleshunt-Beckingham, Tolleshunt-Knights, Tolleshunt-Darcy, Tollesbury.

HEYBRIDGE.

Hey-
bridge.

The situation of this parish is on the south-western extremity of the hundred, on the north of the river Pant or Blackwater, opposite to Maldon. The name anciently applied to it was Tidwaldintun, Tidwalditune, Tidwolditune, used in records till the time of Edward the first, and the old bridge here, of five arches, is supposed to have been the occasion of its new name of Highbridge, vulgarized to Heybridge: in records it is sometimes called Wall-bridge, and it is reasonably supposed, that the main stream, now running under the bridge, called Fulbridge, had formerly its course under this High-bridge, or there would not have been occasion for so many arches.

Tidwalditune was one of the thirteen lordships with which king Athelstan endowed the cathedral church of St. Paul, and of these, five were in Essex.† It was in possession of it at the general survey, and has holden it to the present time. It is one of the manors to which this immunity was granted, that no purveyor of the king should take any corn within their precincts. Many of the old buildings have been destroyed, some of which are said to have been on Potley or Potman marsh. There is a raised causeway between this place and Maldon, of which Edward the second ordered a survey to be taken in 1324. The circumference of this parish is about six miles. There is a fair here on Whit Tuesday. The village is conveniently situated for business near the junction of the Chelmer and Blackwater, and has greatly increased in trade and population; there are extensive salt-works here: distant from Maldon one, and from London, thirty-eight miles.

Hey-
bridge
Hall.

The mansion of the manor of Heybridge, which belongs to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, is a good ancient building, half a mile south-east from the church; the recorded holders of the estate who were longest in possession of it, were the family of Freshwater, originally of Tollesbury. In 1617, Richard Freshwater, esq. died, holding this estate. By his wife, Bridget, daughter of John Brand, of Boxford, he had John, Richard, Thomas, Edward; Frances, Bridget, and Mary. John, the eldest son, married Elizabeth, daughter of John Wiseman, esq., of Stisted-hall, and had by

* Of these four salt-works, two were in Great Totham; and the Heybridge salt-works of the present time extend into that parish.

† These were, Heybridge, Belcham, Wickham St. Paul's, Runwell, and Edulfesnece, or Walton.—Dugdale's History of St. Paul's.

her, Richard, John, Thomas, Isaac, Edward; Mary, Elizabeth, and Clemence. He died in 1657, aged fifty-six; and his wife in 1681, aged eighty-seven. John, Thomas, and Isaac, died unmarried. Richard, the eldest son, by Mary his wife, daughter and co-heiress of John Studley, of Denton, in Wiltshire, had Elizabeth and Mary.* Elizabeth was married, first to William Aylet, of Great Totham, who died in 1749, having had by her, William, Thomas, who died in 1736, and Elizabeth, wife, first of ——— Savage; and, secondly, married to Edmund Percival, esq., of Lincoln's Inn; she died in 1690, and her husband, in her right, had the lease of this estate: he married to his second wife, Anne Fitz-James, widow, whose maiden name was Hering. She enjoyed the estate many years, and bequeathed it to her nephew, the rev. Julius Hering, of Clatford, near Marlborough, in Wiltshire. •

The church is on the strand opposite to Maldon, and in high tides the sea comes up to it. It is a plain ancient building, dedicated to St. Andrew; the steeple has either fallen or been taken down.† This church was founded and dedicated between the years 1160 and 1181. It is in the peculiar jurisdiction of the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, who are lords of the manor, ordinaries of the place, proprietors of the rectorial or great tithes, and patrons of the vicarage, which was ordained and endowed in 1243.‡

There was formerly a chantry here in the patronage of the bishops of London.

The population of this parish, in 1821, was eight hundred and sixty-eight; and in 1831 had increased to one thousand and sixty-four.

LANGFORD.

This parish extends along the border of the Blackwater, from Heybridge to Wickham Bishops. The English words, long and ford, in Saxon, lang forð, form its name, derived from a ford of that description near the village. The parish is six miles in circumference: distant from Maldon two miles, and from London forty.

Before the Conquest, this estate belonged to Gola and Agelmar; and at the survey, to Ralph Baynard.

The manor-house is near the church on the north. On the forfeiture of William, son of Ralph Baynard, king Henry the first gave this manor to Robert, a younger son of Richard Fitzgilbert; and in the reign of Henry the second, it was in the possession of Geoffrey de Ambli; it afterwards belonged to the family of Preyers of

* Arms of Freshwater:—Azure, a fesse between two trouts, argent. Crest: two arrows in saltier, tied with a knot. Otherwise, out of a crown imperial, gules, two trouts in saltier, tails erect, argent.

† An annuity of fifty-two shillings is paid out of an estate called Longs, or Londons, lying in Great and Little Totham and Goldangre, to be given to poor widows; and the same sum is also paid out of this estate to poor widows of St. Botolph's and St. Giles's, Colchester.

‡ Newcourt, vol. ii. pp. 328, 329.

BOOK II. Sible-Hedingham, and Margaret, daughter and heiress of sir Thomas de Preyers, married to Robert de Bouchier, conveyed it to that noble family. It belonged to Robert Lord Bouchier, who died in 1349; and his son John, lord Bouchier, dying in 1400, was succeeded by his son, Bartholomew, whose widow, Idonea, held it till her death in 1410; and their only daughter and heiress conveyed it to her two husbands, sir Hugh Stafford and sir Lewis Robessart; but the lady dying without issue, her kinsman, Henry Bouchier, earl of Eu (and afterwards earl of Essex), had this estate;* he died in 1483, and was succeeded by his grandson, Henry, earl of Essex, who, dying in 1540, left his daughter Anne his heiress, married to William Parr, marquis of Northampton.

The Smyth family of Cressing Temple were the next owners of this estate; Thomas Smyth, esq., died possessed of it in 1565, succeeded by his son Clement, on whose decease, in 1590, his brother Henry was his successor; on whose death, in 1612, without issue, the inheritance came to his next brother, sir John Nevill, alias Smyth, kn. fifty-nine years of age; who dying in 1631, was succeeded by his brother, sir Thomas Smyth, more than seventy years of age. Matthew Harvey, esq., sixth son of Thomas Harvey, of Folkestone, in Kent, and brother to the celebrated physician, Dr. William Harvey, was the next owner of this manor, and was living in 1667. He left it to his nephew, sir Eliab Harvey, kn., of Chigwell, who sold it to Nicholas Wescomb, esq., in 1680, who died in 1696: Sarah, his widow, was remarried to Mr. Bateman, and had the estate till her death in 1740, when she was succeeded by her eldest son, Nicholas Wescomb, esq., of the Inner Temple, who died in 1744, succeeded by Nicholas Wescomb, esq., of Cheverill's Green, in Hertford. It now belongs to Mrs. Wescomb, of Langford-grove: this is a handsome modern building, in a finely wooded park, near Langford-hall.

Stock-
Hall.

The estate of Stock-hall, was holden of lord John de Bohun, and John Preyers, by John de Ulting in 1319, who, in 1328, held the same possession of Robert Fitzwalter; and his son, Nicholas Ulting, held it in 1386, of Walter Fitzwalter. In 1421 it was holden by sir Hugh Stafford, of the heirs of John Preyers.

Church.

The church is a plain ancient building, dedicated to St. Giles.†

Thomas Langford, a Dominican friar, author of an universal Chronicle, was a native of this place: he flourished about the year 1320.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to two hundred and fifty-one; and, in 1831, to two hundred and seventy-three.

* Monast. Ang. vol. i. p. 432.

Charity.

† Sarah Hall, by will, dated 8th of November, 1680, left her customary cottage, in the street called Foster's Gardens, for the use of the poor of this parish for ever, and forty shillings for keeping it in repair. It consists of three dwellings for poor people.

WICKHAM-BISHOP'S.

CHAP.
XIX.Wickham
Bishop's.

The Saxon name of Wickham is indicative of there having been a village or habitation, and a fortress or castle at this place; it is the second parish so named in Essex. Having belonged to the bishops of London even before the conquest, it has therefore received the additional name of Bishop's. No remains of a fortress can now be traced; yet the continual incursions of the Danes here, may reasonably be supposed to have given occasion for works of defence, or to watch the approach and movements of an enemy: and there was formerly a beacon on the highest part of the parish, upon the border of Tiptree heath. The parish is about six miles in circumference; the village a mile east from the church; distant three miles from Maldon, and forty from London. The situation of this parish is on high ground. There is only one manor, and most of the lands are holden of it by copy of court roll.

The manor house is half a mile distant from the church: it is a modern brick building. The original ancient mansion was the residence of the bishops of London: and in 1375 William Courtney, then bishop, had a license of Edward the third to impark three hundred acres of land in his manor of Wickham. The manor is holden by lease from the bishops. Lord Maynard formerly had the lease, and one of the family disposed of it to Henry Parsons, esq., brother to Humphrey Parsons, esq., alderman of London; who, having also purchased the site of an old water-mill in this parish, erected a capital mill, and near it a handsome and commodious mansion, with gardens, fish-ponds, and pleasure-grounds, which he left to his wife's daughter, Mrs. Frances Marston, married afterwards to Philip Burlton, esq.

Wickham
Hall.

The church is a small building, with a wooden turret.

Church.

The rectory, in the collation of the bishop of London, is wholly in his jurisdiction. It has a glebe of above one hundred acres, but much of it consists of land of an inferior description. The parsonage house is a mile east from the church, on a hill near Tiptree-heath, which commands an interesting prospect of wide extent.

In 1821, there were four hundred and sixty-seven inhabitants in this parish, and five hundred and forty-nine in 1831.

GREAT TOTHAM.*

This parish is bounded on the south and south-east by Little Totham; on the east by Tolleshunt Malger; on the north and north-west by Great and Little Braxted; and on the west and south-west, by Wickham Bishop's, and Langford. The name is of uncertain derivation. Robert de Totham, who lived in the time of Henry the second, is frequently called Robert de Topham by old writers, and

Great To-
tham.

* The editor has to acknowledge important assistance, in the account of this parish, from "A History, antiquarian and statistical, of the parish of Great Totham. By George W. Johnson, F.L.S. Z.S. and H.S. Printed at the manor house, by Charles Clark, for private circulation only. 1831."

BOOK II. it seems probable, that this Saxon name of *top* and *ham*, was originally given as properly applicable to the high grounds near the beacon, which was taken away a few years ago. This ground has been considered the highest in the county.* The road from Maldon to Colchester, by Tiptree heath, passes across this parish, and it lies between Maldon and Witham, its nearest boundary toward either of those towns being, respectively, three miles distant; the distance to London, either way, forty-one miles.†

In the time of Edward the Confessor, these lands belonged to Turbert, and to Hamo Dapifer, at the time of the survey. There are two manors.

Totham
Hall.

The capital manor of Great Totham is part of what belonged to Hamo Dapifer, on whose death, without issue, he left it with his other large possessions, to the children of his elder brother, Robert Fitz-Hamon, lord of Cardiff, Tewksbury, and Gloucester. This Robert also obtained immense possessions in Wales; for being invited to assist in a rebellion against prince Rhys ap Tewdwr, he turned his arms against that prince, and killed him in battle; he then divided the country of Glamorganshire among the twelve knights who assisted him; their tenure being military service at his castle of Cardiff, and civil service at his court of justice there.‡ Robert was one of William Rufus' greatest favourites; and, according to William of Malmesbury, warned that monarch not to hunt in the New Forest, on the day he met his death there. The same chronicle says, that the warning was given in consequence of a monk's dream.§ Robert Fitz-Hamon died in 1107, from a wound he received in taking Falaise in Normandy: William of Malmesbury says the blow was upon his head, and produced mania. In the charters he granted he is termed, "sir Robert

* "I am unable," says Mr. Johnson, "to state the altitude of the Beacon hill, in this parish, which the eye pronounces to be the greatest elevation in the county. I hoped to have obtained correct information on this point from the Ordnance office, but a communication from thence informs me that the instrument used, in 1799, by Col. Mudge in triangulating this part of England was not accurate in obtaining vertical angles, consequently the altitude of the Beacon hill is undetermined." The same authority, however, informs me, that Laindon hill is six hundred and twenty feet above low water, and the Beacon hill is apparently of rather superior altitude.

† "No actual survey of the parish existing," says Mr. G. W. Johnson, "I am unable to state accurately the number of acres it contains. An approximation is afforded by the knowledge that tithe is paid for two thousand four hundred and forty-four acres. There are more than two hundred acres of tithe-free land in the parish; and if, as is usual, ten acres are added to every one hundred, as a fair addition to tenant's measure, waste, farm-yards, &c., it cannot be very erroneous to consider the area of the parish as three thousand acres. The soil on the highest ground of this parish is light and gravelly; in the lower district richer and more productive, with a larger proportion of clay; but with the exception of a few small veins of clay, the whole surface-soil rests upon gravel, which has been found in places to reach a depth of between forty and fifty feet. In boring for water at the May Pole public house, on the edge of the parish, toward Heybridge, about thirty feet of gravel were succeeded by two hundred feet of greyish clay, with occasional mixtures of siliceous sand, where a rock intervened which the borers did not penetrate."

‡ Gibson's Camden's Britannia, p. 609.

§ Fleming's Chronicles, p. 26.

Fitz-Hamon, prince of Glamorgan, earl of Corboile, baron of Thorigny and Granville, lord of Gloucester, Bristol, Tewksbury and Cardiff, conqueror of Wales, near kinsman to the king, and general of his highness' army in France.* He was buried in the chapter-house of Tewksbury abbey, which he had greatly improved.† Mr. Bennet says the tomb is yet to be seen there. By his wife, Sybil, daughter of Roger de Montgomery, earl of Shrewsbury, he had Mabel, Hawise, Cicely, and Amice, his co-heiresses. Mabel, the eldest daughter, was married in 1109, to Robert, the bastard son of king Henry the first; ennobled by the title of consul and earl of Gloucester. The portion the king gave with her was the honour of Gloucester: a large estate in Normandy, and the entire estates of her uncle, Hamo Dapifer,‡ of which, as we have seen, Totham was part. Peter Langtaft, out of Robert of Gloucester's chronicle, gives the following account of the king wooing Mabel for his son:—

“This gentille damycelle seide nay, that it were not fittyng to mary suche a man, that bare no name but only Robard. Then the kynge seide, that his son schulde have a name. And because her name was Maboily le Fizhaym, his name schulde be Robert le Fizroy. Nay, quoth she, what name shall oure children bere betweene him and me? Par ma fey, seide the kynge; then he shalle have a name, his name shal be, Robert erle of Gloucester, and I geve hym the erledome for thy sake, and to hym and to your bothes heires. Then this damycelle thanked hym, and then the mariage was done. And this was the first erle of Gloucester.”

“He who thus became the owner of Totham, had for his mother, Nesta, daughter of Prince Rhys ap Twdwr, already mentioned. He was born about the year 1090. When upon the death of his father, Henry the first, Stephen seized the throne of England, Robert of Gloucester became one of his most strenuous adversaries, and supporter of the rights of his half-sister, Matilda, through every reverse of fortune that attended her. He was a star in a dark age—brave, virtuous, and learned. William of Malmsbury dedicated to him his chronicle. I cannot sum up his character as well as is done by lord Lyttleton: ‘He had no inconsiderable tincture of learning, and was the patron of all who excelled in it; qualities rare at all times in a nobleman of his high rank, but particularly in an age when knowledge and valour were thought incompatible, and not to be able to read was a mark of nobility. He was unquestionably the wisest man of those times; and his virtue was such, that even those times could not corrupt it.’§ He died of an ague on the 31st of October, 1147, and was buried at Bristol, in the choir of the Virgin Mary's chapel, in St. James's priory, now St. James's church. He left four sons and one daughter; of whom William, the eldest son, succeeded to his title and chief part of his estates, including the manor of Great

* Bennett's History of Tewkesbury, p. 73.

† William of Malmsbury.

‡ Leland, vi. 85, ed. 1744. William of Gloucester, p. 306.

§ Lyttleton's Life of Henry the second.

Totham. Earl William died in 1173, and was buried in the abbey of Keinsbam, in Somersetshire, of which abbey he was the founder.”* Previous to his death he gave this manor to sir Richard de Lucy, one of the most distinguished men of his time.† He was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire, in 1156, and chief justice of England in 1162; and was lieutenant of England in the absence of Henry the second, during his expedition into Normandy, from 1166 to 1174; and when in this high office Robert, earl of Leicester, raised a rebellion, sir Richard, after undertaking several expeditions against him, finally met him between Fornham and Bury, in Suffolk, and there took him prisoner, after destroying his army; this was in 1173.‡ In 1179 he resigned his office of chief justice, and becoming a canon in the abbey of Westwood or Lesnes, in Kent, of which he was the founder, he died there the same year.§ He had two sons, Geoffrey and Herbert, and two daughters, Rohais and Maud. Geoffrey, the eldest son, died before his father, but left his son and heir, Richard de Lucy, supposed to have been the next owner of this estate; but dying without issue he was succeeded by his uncle, Herbert de Lucy; who also dying without offspring, his estates were divided between his two sisters. Of these, Maud de Lucy was given in marriage by king John, in 1213, to Richard de Rivers, who held this manor in her right. She survived him, and died in 1242, leaving Richard de Rivers, her grandson, her heir.||

In 1281 John de Nevill held this manor by the service of one knight's fee: he succeeded his father in the office of justice of the king's forests, in 1235, but being accused in 1244, of several neglects and trespasses, he was turned out of office, disgraced, and fined two thousand pounds, which so sensibly affected him that he died in the following year, and was buried in Waltham abbey.¶ Sir Hugh de Nevill held this manor jointly with his wife Ida, of Elizabeth de Burgh, lady of Clare, a descendant of the earl of Gloucester, by the service of one knight's fee; and he held it by the same tenure, without any mention of his wife, in 1330.** He died in 1335, and was succeeded by his son and heir, sir John Nevill, who, dying without issue, in 1358, left this manor, with several others, after his wife Alice's death, to William de Bohun, earl of Northampton. Lady Alice Neville survived till 1394. She was the last of the illustrious family whose name she bore who held lands in this parish, which, from their ownership, acquired the name of Totham Nevill.

• On the death of the lady Alice, this lordship became the property of Eleanor, one of the two co-heiresses of William de Bohun, earl of Northampton, and she conveyed

* Bennet's History of Tewkesbury, p. 75.

+ G. W. Johnson, esq.

‡ Roger Hovenden's Chronicle.

§ Fleming's Chronicles, p. 103.

|| It had been previously holden of the family of Rivers; Hugh de Nevill died possessed of it in 1222.

¶ Matthew Paris, 652, 661, and 710.

** Tenures in Essex, ed. 3, anno 7. Lansdowne MSS. No. 227 in the British Museum.

it to her husband, Thomas of Woodstock, sixth son of king Edward the third; in right of his wife he was earl of Essex and Northampton, and constable of England. By creation, in 1377, he became earl of Buckingham, and in 1385, duke of Gloucester. After the duke's murder at Paris, in 1397, he was, in the succeeding parliament, declared a traitor, and all his lands forfeited to the king,* but according to Mr. Morant, his widow enjoyed them to the time of her death, as also the perquisites of the office of high-constable of England. "This," says Mr. G. W. Johnson, "is not entirely correct; for I find that two years after his death (in the twenty-second year of the reign of Richard the second, 1399, John de Bouchier held in this parish three knight's fees, which Hugh de Nevill did hold, for so I interpret the contracted Latin of the record (et qu Hugo de Nevyll ten.)† In the following year, first of Henry the fourth, he held the manor of Great Totham, however, of the earl of Stafford."‡ Thomas of Woodstock had one son and three daughters; of these, Anne de Woodstock became possessed of the estates of her parents, which were enjoyed by her three husbands; first, Thomas earl of Stafford, who died without issue: and secondly she married his brother Edmund, also earl of Stafford, who was killed at the battle of Shrewsbury, in 1403. Her third husband was William Bouchier, earl of Eu, whom she survived; he died in 1420, and the lady in 1439. By her last husband she had Eleanor, married to the duke of Norfolk, and Anne, married to the earl of March; and secondly to the duke of Exeter; she had also by the said earl four sons, Henry, earl of Eu and Essex, William, lord Fitzwarin, Thomas, archbishop of Canterbury, and a cardinal, and sir John Bouchier, K.G.: this last died in 1400, and was buried in Halsted church, with his wife Elizabeth, daughter of sir John Cuggeshall: he had by her his only son, sir Bartholomew Bouchier, who died in 1409, possessed of this estate, which, with his other possessions, was enjoyed by his widow, lady Idonea Bouchier, till her decease in 1410.§ They left their only daughter Elizabeth their heiress; married first to sir Hugh Stafford, son of Hugh, earl of Stafford, who, through her, held this manor in 1409, of the king, as of the honour of Boulogne, by the service of half a knight's fee; he died in 1421, and his widow was married to sir Lewis Robesart, in 1429. Both of her husbands were summoned to parliament by the title of lord Bouchier, and both held the manor by the same tenure. Sir Lewis died in 1430. The two husbands of lady Elizabeth Bouchier were distinguished warriors. When Henry the fifth was waging war in France in 1415, he was opposed in a narrow pass near the town of Corby, by some French troops, "wherein," says Fleming, "sir Hugh Stafford, lord Bouchier, cheefteine of a wing of the king under the standard of Guien, and as then neerest to the enimie,

* Tyrell's History of England, vol. iii. p. 961.

† Tenures in Essex. Lansdowne MSS. No. 327.

‡ Ibid.

§ Lansdowne MSS. in British Museum.

BOOK II. though far inferior in number, yet with readie and valiant incounter received them.”* The chronicle then proceeds to state how “one John Bromley, of Bromley, in Staffordshire, a neere kinsman unto the lord Bouchier,” distinguished himself in recovering the king’s standard; and gives a verbatim copy of the deed whereby his kinsman rewards him with a settlement of money and lands. The other husband, sir Lewis Robesart, has this assurance, that he was a man of proven valour; he was standard-bearer to the victor of Agincourt. In 1419, the same monarch made him governor, and captain of “Crulie” and “Cawdebecke,” in Normandy.† At the time of her death in 1433, the lady Elizabeth Bouchier held this manor of the earl of Stafford: and leaving no children by either of her husbands, her estates passed successively to her nearest kinsman, (grandson of her paternal grandfather,) Henry Bouchier, earl of Eu in Normandy, and earl of Essex in England: and to his grandson, Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, a man of superior understanding, and distinguished as a warrior in numerous expeditions of the reigns of the seventh and eighth Henries. On his death, in 1540, his heiress was his only child, Anne, by his wife Mary, one of the co-heiresses of William Say; she was married, in 1541, to sir William Parr, baron of Kendal, who, in 1543, was created earl of Essex, and, in 1546, marquis of Northampton. In her right he was possessed of this manor. Espousing the cause of lady Jane Grey, he was condemned as a traitor. His trial took place, with the duke of Northumberland and the earl of Warwick, before the duke of Norfolk, lord high steward, on the 18th of August, 1553. He pleaded that after the beginning of the tumults he had taken no part in any public office; but the facts were proved against him, and he was found guilty.‡ He was brother of queen Katharine Parr, and by that, or some other road to favour, obtained remission of the capital part of the sentence in the following December.§ He was restored in blood, but not to his honours, nor to his estates; this manor of Great Totham, however, and a few others, were granted to him for his maintenance. He died without issue, and this manor seems to have reverted to the crown.||

In 1594, William Beriff, gent., died, possessed of this estate, which he held of the queen as of her manor of East Greenwich, by fealty only, in free socage. The Beriffs held several estates in Essex; their earliest and chief residence seems to have been a house called “Jacobs,” in Brightlingsea, where they were seated as early as the year 1496: William, son of William Beriff was forty-eight years of age at the time of his father’s death, and is supposed to have sold this estate to Thomas Wylde, esq., who, in the parish books, is styled of Heybridge; he died possessed of it in 1599, and was succeeded by Thomas Wylde, his son, who married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard

* Fleming’s Chronicle, p. 551.

‡ Harleian MSS. Codex 284, p. 128.

|| Gibson’s Camden’s Brit. p. 430.

† Fleming’s Chronicle, from Hall’s Chronicle, p. 571.

§ Stowe’s Annals, p. 617.

Coke, esq.; he died in 1606, leaving his son Edmund his heir; and either this Edmund, at an advanced age, or a relative of the same name, held the manor in 1692. In 1728, the estate was in the possession of Thomas Martin, esq., a banker, of London, who died in 1764; and whose son, Joseph Martin, sold it to Filmer Honeywood, esq., in whose descendants it has continued to the present time; of whom, William Philip Honeywood died at his seat of Mark's hall, near Coggeshall, on the 22d of April, 1831, in the forty-second year of his age, and was buried in Mark's-hall church; he married a daughter of Charles Hanbury, esq., of Halstead, Essex, of the firm of "Sparrow, Hanbury, and Co.," bankers; and has left three sons, William the eldest, the heir, Robert, and ———, and a daughter. He was educated at the University of Cambridge, where he was entered a fellow-commoner of Jesus college, and regularly proceeded to the degree of M.A. He was M.P. for the county of Kent, first elected in 1818, and retained his seat till the death of George the fourth, when the precarious state of his health demanded a retirement from the fatigues of public life. He was a magistrate and deputy-lieutenant for the counties of Essex and Kent, and provincial grand master of masons for the county of Essex. His brothers, Edward and Philip, and one sister, Mrs. Horatio Vachell, survived him: the rest of the family of fourteen are dead.* The Mark's hall, Totham, and other estates, are now in trust for the benefit of the family.

Great Totham hall is near the church, on the north. It seems originally to have been a stately mansion, fit to be the residence of a family of distinction; and was surrounded by a moat, which is yet remaining on three of its sides, and partly on the fourth. The bridgeway was on the western side. The old form of the mansion can no longer be recognized, it having been modernized in 1825. Mr. Martin was the last lord of the manor who resided in it. The present occupier of this estate is Mr. Robert Clark.

The name of the manorial farm of Gibbecrakes, has been modernized to Gibberacks; Gibbe-
crakes
the house is half a mile from the church, to the south, on the left of the road to Little Totham church. This estate was taken from the capital manor, but the time when is not recorded; in 1414, sir William Marney died, holding it of the bishop of London. Sir Thomas Marney was his son and heir, and died in 1417; and sir John Marney, who died in 1463, had also this estate; his son, Henry, afterwards lord Marney,† inherited this, with the other family possessions; and on his death in 1523,

* G. W. Johnson, esq.

† He was privy councillor to Henry the seventh, and a politician and warrior; was created K. G. by Henry the eighth, and attended that monarch in his war with France, as captain of the guard. In 1522, he was made keeper of the privy seal, having previously been vice-chamberlain; and in the following year was raised to the peerage. He died in 1523, and was buried in the chancel of Layer Marney church. By his lady, Thomasine, daughter of sir John Arundel, he had two sons and one daughter; and by his second lady, Elizabeth, he had one daughter.—Baker's Chronicle, p. 289.

BOOK II. was succeeded by his son, John, lord Marney, who had this estate at the time of his death, in 1525. He married Christian, daughter of sir John Newborough, and had also a second wife, by whom he had no children: by the lady Christian, he had Katharine, first married to George Radcliff, and secondly to Thomas lord Poynings; and Elizabeth, who married lord Thomas Howard, son of Thomas, duke of Norfolk, created lord Howard of Bindon. These co-heiresses sold this manor, and other estates, to sir Brian Tuke, on whose decease, in 1533, his son Charles was his heir, and had this estate till 1547, when, dying without issue, his brother, George Tuke, esq., succeeded to the family possessions: he died in 1573, and his eldest son, Brian, was his heir. The estate was, about this period, in the possession of William Beriff,* and of Thomas Wylde, esq., in 1599. It afterwards accompanied the capital manor in its changes of ownership. Present occupier, Mr. John Payne.

Favells,
Frevills,
or Cobbis.

In 1353, Thomas Fabell died, possessed of lands in this parish, and had for his heir John Fabell his son. Hugh de Naylinghurst, returned in 1433 by the commissioners, as one of the gentry of the county of Essex,† died in 1493, possessed, among other estates, of a tenement "called "Favells," alias "Cobbis," held of the manor of Totham. Clement, his son, succeeded him, and died in 1499, leaving his son, James, his heir, who had three sons, Ralph, Edward, and Richard. The second of these was a lunatic, and, in 1551, besides possessions in the neighbouring parishes, held "Frevills, lying in Great Totham." It is not now known what estate in this parish formerly bore the above names. The house belonging to this estate is a quarter of a mile from the church; the name has been modernized to Sains. One of the Malcolms, king of Scotland, and earl of Huntingdon, held it sometime between the years 1070 and 1130. He granted it to Robert, son of Sewin, who gave it to the nuns of Clerkenwell. It consisted of one hundred and forty acres of land "in Hangre de Totham:" he also gave them half a wood, and four dead trees in his wood of Totham, and pasturage for ten hogs, upon condition of the nuns paying to him one silver mark at Michaelmas.‡ This estate, in 1524, was known as "Tothamstent," alias "Sawins," and belonged to Henry, the first lord Marney. Probably it passed with Gibbecrakes, to the Tukes, and to John Church, of Maldon, who held it in 1559, and from whom it seems to have been conveyed to William Aylett, esq., who died in 1583, and it belonged to Thomas Beckingham in 1596; but had again become the property of the Aylett family in 1692, and was retained by them till 1749,§ when it was purchased by Filmer Honeywood, esq., and is now in trust for

Sawns, or
Sawins.

* Harleian MSS. Codex 6684 and 6685.

† Fuller's Worthies, p. 338.

‡ Monast. Angl. vol. i. p. 430.

§ Under the will of Thomas Aylett, dated the 14th of March, 1636, his estates in, and the great tithes of the parish of Great Totham, are chargeable with the annual payment of ten pounds, to the master of Kelvedon school.

the family of the late William Philip Honeywood, esq. Present occupier, Mr. Alfred May.

CHAP.
XIX

The mansion of Lofts, or Loughts, is on Broad-street-green: the name is supposed to be Saxon, and to signify an inclosure. The estate belonged to Anne Bouchier, marchioness of Northampton, who died in 1570; and to John Bullock, esq., at the time of his decease, in 1595: his successors resided here till sir Edward Bullock purchased Faulkborne hall, in 1637; and, previous to that period, the representative of the family was styled, "of Lofts." This estate, in 1712, belonged to sir Nathan Wright, of Cranham; and, from his family passed into the possession of Mrs. Lewis, connected with them, and with the Lawleys, of Canwell hall, Staffordshire: Margaret, third daughter of sir Thomas Lawley, bart., had for her second husband, sir Nathan Wright, bart., by whom she had two daughters. It passed from Mrs. Lewis, to sir Robert Lawley, bart., who sold it to Nicholas Westcomb, esq., of Thrumpton, Nottinghamshire, and it now belongs to his eldest son, John Emmerton Westcomb, esq., who resides at Thrumpton. The present occupier is Mr. James Carter. The house, at the time it was inhabited by the Bullock family, and, till a few years past, was of considerable extent; the hall particularly spacious. It was moated. This building has been taken down, and a good farm-house erected.

Lofts.

Lands, named Frerne, Ferns, or Frians, were given by Robert Mantel to Beleigh abbey, founded by him in 1180. After the dissolution, they were granted from the crown, in 1544, to William Butts; by whom they were, in the same year, conveyed to John Page. John Alleyn, esq., held this estate in capite, in 1556; in 1571, Richard Durant died in possession of it, and of Barrow-hills, and Barrow-marsh; he was succeeded by his brother William. The house is on the right of a road passing over Totham hill to Beckingham; it appears to have been originally a capital mansion, and traces of the moat by which it was surrounded are yet to be seen. This estate now belongs to the rev. G. E. Howman. The present occupier is Mrs. Higham, widow.

Frerne.

"No residence but this," says Mr. G. W. Johnson, "surrounded by such fine timber, placed upon beautifully undulating ground, and commanding so extensive a view of lake scenery, is to be found in England, untenanted by a gentleman's establishment. Of its history I know scarcely anything. It probably is one of the knight's fees, separated from the original manor at the period when Gibbecrakes was similarly alienated. The greater part of it is tithe-free. In 1729, it was possessed by Thomas Garrard, esq. It then came into the possession of a Mr. Firmin; and, by marriage, is now possessed by the countess de Vande." Occupier, Mr. William Goodday.

Mountain.

Numerous tumuli, or mounds of earth on marsh land, opposite to Maldon, on the banks of Blackwater bay, have been called Barrow, or Burrow-hills. It has been

Barrow hills.

BOOK II.

disputed whether these are situated in Great Totham; but that they are, is testified in the parish register of the year 1736, by the rev. S. Speed, who states, that the Barrow-hill land is included in the perambulations of the parish then existing, as made in the years 1590, 1650, 1667, 1712, and 1732. This land evidently afforded the means of communication with Osey island, which has never been disputed to belong to this parish. The Barrows, or Tumuli, from which these lands have obtained their name, have nearly disappeared, the most prominent of them being levelled during the preparation of some of the lands for sun pans annexed to the Heybridge salt works. They undoubtedly marked the burying-places of the Saxons and Danes who fell in some one of the numerous conflicts which took place in this neighbourhood between those nations; and supposed to have been that in which Byrthnoth, earldoman of Northumberland, and governor of Essex, fell. The Saxon chronicle informs us he lived in the reigns of Edgar, Edward the Martyr, and Ethelred. The Danes having effected a secret landing at Maldon, he attacked them, and nearly destroyed the whole of their force, upon a bridge across the river: * the Danes, however, returned in greater force, and challenged him to meet them again; and in this action he fell. The windmill at Barrow-hills, erected about the year 1703, was destroyed by a hurricane, in June, 1831, and has been since rebuilt.

The Barrow-hills and Barrow-marsh belonged, in 1574, to Richard Durant, and then to his brother William. They have since been in the hands of — Pigott, esq., and have now passed, by will, to Henry Cope, esq. †

Ovesey
Isle

The island named Ovesey, or Osey, is in Domesday named Uvesia, apparently from the Latin, significantly applied to it as being damp or moist; an epithet it even now deserves, and much more merited formerly, before it was regularly embanked. Previous to the Conquest, it belonged to Turbert; and to Hamo Dapifer, at the survey: it contains two hundred and thirty acres.

This estate seems to have generally gone with the capital manor till it was sold by Walter Devereux, earl of Essex, to Thomas Wiseman, esq., of Great Waltham, who, dying in 1584 without issue, was succeeded by his sisters, Dorothy, wife of — Mompesson, and Elizabeth, wife of Richard Jennings: it was purchased by Mr. Charles Coe, of Maldon, and belonged to his heirs in 1768. Afterwards, it was conveyed to the Pigott family; and now belongs to Henry Cope, esq., of Maldon. Occupier, Mr. Edward Hammond.

Small
estates.

In 1558, part of the estate granted to the marquis of Northampton, for his maintenance, was a tenement in Great Totham, called Noakes; this was, perhaps, Knowles hall, now belonging to the rev. E. Howman; it is on the right hand side of the

* Supposed to have been the old Saxon bridge at Heybridge.

† Rev. J. Speed in the parish register.—Mr. Johnson's History.

road, between the Bull, and Compasses, inns. Chigboroughs belongs to Mrs. Carter, widow. Hores Wood,* situate opposite to Mountains, belongs to Peter Ducane, esq. Crisps is the property of the same gentleman: one of the fields belonging to this farm, is known as the Goat Lodge: in the time of the Conqueror, this parish pastured many goats; and its high-lying heathy grounds rendered it particularly in accordance with their wandering habits; and there can be little doubt this inclosure was the night-pen and winter shelter for the flock of some later goat-herd, Alleys, and Applebys, is possessed by Mrs. Emeritta Argent, widow. Yates, by William Pattison, esq., solicitor, Witham. Rook hall, by the executors of Mr. Challis Carter. Paynes and Quilters, by Mr. William Brown. Slough house belongs to the parish of St. Paul's, Covent Garden, but it is not known how they became possessed of it. There is also a small plot of ground, known as Hatfield Poor Lands, which was purchased with part of one hundred pounds, bequeathed by sir Edmund Alleyn, bart., with the direction, that the rent of it should be appropriated to the schooling and apprenticing of poor children of the parish of Hatfield Peverel, in the clothing trade. This land consists of two crofts, estimated to contain nine acres, together with a cottage, erected on part of the land: it was named Howlets and Wheelers.†

The church is a handsome building of brick, whitened and tiled, dedicated to Church. St. Peter. It is of one pace with the chancel; and has a boarded belfry, and shingled spire. "The two bells," observes Mr. G. W. Johnson, "are most discordant and inharmonious. One of them is very much cracked; it has, in old English characters, this inscription, 'Sancte Andrea, ora pro nobis,'‡ with 'J. S.', the initials of the caster, and the impression of a coin, the inscription of which is undistinguishable, except the letters 'C. I.' The three pellets in each quarter of the shield, and the inscription, induce me to consider it as a coin of Edward the First, or Edward the Second, which are very difficult to distinguish from each other. Coinages, in those reigns (1272—1327), were made at York, the inscription being, 'Eboraci civit.' The other bell, in similar characters, with several crosses fleury, has the inscription, 'Ave gracia plena!§ which is not only bad spelling, but false Latin. Morant says, in his time (1768), there were three bells; and there are evident signs in the belfry of there having been that number.

The interior of the church is simple: the hangings and decorations of the communion table, desk, and pulpit, were the work and gift of Mrs. Elizabeth Gower, sister of the present curate. This gentleman, the rev. Thomas Ffoot Gower, of Brazenose College, Oxford, has been a very liberal benefactor of this church: it

* Horeswood, and Horesland, belonged to Belcigh Abbey.—Let. Pat. 32 Hen. VIII.

† Hist. of Great Totham, by G. W. Johnson, esq.

‡ Holy Andrew, pray for us.

§ Hail, full of grace!

was much improved and enlarged in 1826, chiefly at his expense. Mrs. Francis Lee, of Maldon, gave the present altar-piece (the Worship of the Magi), which I am told came from a chapel attached to Messing house. The church is more particularly described in the following note, made by the rev. Mr. Wix, F.R.S., &c., in October, 1829: * "Great Totham church is an ancient structure. The east window is modernized. In the south wall, near to the chancel, is an early English, or Norman, window, divided by a shaft; I should say Norman, for it is not a long, narrow, or round-headed window, though it has in the upper part (which is, I think, cinquefoil) an early English ornament, containing, in coloured glass, roses. In the north wall, I observed a vestige of a long and narrow window, approaching to the early English; but, about the period when these windows were employed, the Norman and English styles ran so into each other, that it is not very easy accurately to distinguish them. The south porch is a specimen of ancient wood-work, more than cinque-foiled, and has a modern door-way, entering the church with an arch somewhat of the Norman style, appropriate, in a good degree, to that of the church, and creditable to my friend Gower, under whose orders it was erected." †

In 1719, the vicarage of this church was augmented by bishop Robinson, with two hundred pounds, to which were added two hundred pounds of queen Anne's bounty,

* From the History of this parish, by G. W. Johnson, esq.

Inscriptions.

† Two female figures in brass, on the floor of the church, each surmounted by the family shield, have the following inscription beneath:

"Here lyeth Elizabeth Coke, late wife of Richard Coke, esquier, daughter of John Pilborough, sometime one of the barons of the Corte of Exchequer; and of Elizabeth his wife, daughter of John Rooper, esquier; and of Jane his wife, wch. Richard Coke, and Elizabeth his wife, had issue onely one daugh., Elizabeth, married to Thomas Wilde, esquier. Que obiit 21 die Decembris, anno Dni. 1696.

"Viva memor mortis, moriens solutia sensit
En tumultata jacet celo fructure per evuta."

The following is in the churchyard:

"Beneath this humble stone lies Esther Hale,
To all the little village dear;
Yon bell exacted, as it told the tale,
From age—from infancy, a tear.

"When the last trump shall change this earthly scene,
And souls their long-lost bodies join,
Thousands will wish their lives below had been
Immaculate and pure as thine."

Benefaction.

Mr. Johnson refers to the will of Thomas Agoddishalfe, of Much Totham, dated 3d of March, 1504: it begins:

"Imprimis, I bequeath my soul to Almighty God, our lady St. Mary, and all the saints in heaven. My body to be buried in the church-yard of Much Totham. I bequeath to Johan, my wife, all my moveable goods," &c. It then proceeds to devise to the churchwardens of Much Totham, all his land called "Goddyschalves," situated in Little Braxted, to be infeoffed, to the intent that the churchwardens should have, for one hundred years, two annual obiits, by paying the vicar for the celebration of mass. It appears to have been tried in the Court of Exchequer, whether the above estate did not lapse to the crown by the stat. 1 Edward VI. c. 14; for sir Roger Manwood, chief baron of that court in queen Mary's reign, determined that it did not. He determined, however, that the feoffment ceased at the end of one hundred years.—Harleian MSS. Codex, 4136, p. 96. This MS. bears the date of 1541.

and an estate in Ingatestone purchased with the amount. "The vicarage-house was rebuilt in 1757, chiefly at the expense of the rev. Griffith Williams. It has been greatly enlarged and improved, as well as the garden about it (which is the only piece of glebe with which the vicarage is endowed), created by the present curate, the rev. Thomas Ffoote Gower." This church was given to the nunnery of Clerkenwell, in Middlesex, by sir Hugh de Nevil, who died in 1222;* and, at the time of this gift of the rectorial tithes, the vicarage was ordained by the bishop of London.†

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to five hundred and eighty; and, in 1831, was increased to six hundred and ninety-six.

LITTLE TOTHAM.

This small parish extends from Great Totham to Goldanger, on the border of Blackwater bay. The situation low, and the air moist and unhealthy. The soil is light and gravelly; it is five miles in circumference: distant from Maldon three miles, and forty from London. There are two manors.

Little
Totham.

The mansion of the manor of Little Totham is a good brick building, erected by sir John Sammes; and had formerly a park of eighty acres. The lands of this lordship, in the time of Edward the confessor, were holden in two portions; Cola, and afterwards Richard, had the chief part, and the other belonged to Gunner: at the time of the survey, Hugh de Montfort had what belonged to Richard; and Suene had the other part which Gunner held under him; a favour not commonly allowed. This manor is united with that of Goldanger, both having only one court, kept at Little Totham hall. Henry de Mailer, Mayloch, or Maleche, held this estate, under Henry de Essex, supposed to have been a descendant from Hugh, son of Malgen, the tenant at the survey under Hugh de Montfort. In the reign of Henry the third this manor and that of Goldanger were in the possession of a family surnamed Iarpenvil, or Carpenvil, from whom this parish was named Totham Iarpenvil;‡ and an heiress of this family conveyed it to the Heveninghams, from whom it passed by purchase to that of Brown, succeeded by that of Sammes; and these considerable families were lords of this manor and had their seats here.

Little
Totham
Manor.

The progenitor of the Heveningham family was Walter, lord of Heveningham in Suffolk, some time before the conquest: Philip was settled here in the reign of king Edward the first, and was succeeded by Walter, and Walter his son; by Robert; Robert; Ralph; Sir William Heveningham, who was with Richard the first at the siege of Acre, where, accepting the challenge of Sapher, governor of the castle there,

* Register de Clerkenwell. Cotton MSS. in Brit. Mus. Faust, b. ii. fol. 176.

† Stokesley, 118. Newcourt's Repertor. ii. 609.

‡ Rolls of the Forest of Essex.

BOOK II. he slew him in single combat. Their descendants remained here many centuries, but at what time the male line became extinct is not found in the record.*

John Sammes, esq. was lord of this manor at the time of his death, in 1606, and his descendants held it in succession till some time after the year 1645.† The present lord of this manor is William Mason, esq., solicitor, of Colchester.

Rook
hall.

The manor-house of Rook hall is a short distance from the road to Heybridge. Before the conquest, this estate belonged to Edunolt and Aluric; and in Domesday it is stated to be “the fee of the bishop of London.” In 1433, Nicholas Wichingham, esq. died holding this estate of the bishop of London, as of his manor of Stortford: he was succeeded by his grandson Robert, who, dying in 1451, left his son John his heir. This estate was next in the possession of John Southcott, esq. who died in 1585; and it was sold by sir Edward Southcott, to Benjamin Lord, of Maldon; of whom it was purchased in 1720 by Nicholas Corsellis, esq. of Wivenhoe, and it has continued in the possession of his descendants, to the present time.

Church.

This church, or chapel, is dedicated to All Saints; it is a small building, with a spire partly of flints. The living has from time immemorial been annexed to the church of Goldanger.‡

In 1821 there were two hundred and sixty-seven inhabitants in this parish, and three hundred and six in 1831.

GOLDANGER, OR GOLDANGRE.

Goldan
ger.

This parish occupies low marshy ground, extending from Little Totham to Blackwater-bay, opposite the isle of Osey.§ The village is on the road from Maldon to Colchester. There is a fair for toys on Whit-Monday: distant from Maldon three miles, and from London forty.

In the time of the Confessor, Leuin Posthagra; Leuin and Uluard; and Elric, were the owners of these lands: at the survey, they belonged to Hugh, son of Malger; Ralph Peverell; and Eustace, earl of Boulogne. There are three manors:

* Arms of Heveningham: Quarterly, or, and gules, within a bordure engrailed, sable, eight escallops, argent. Crest: within a crown, a morion's head proper; on his head a turban of five folds, gules, a button on the top, or.

† Arms of Sammes: Or, a lion rampant, sable, vulned, armed, and langued, gules.

Inscrip-
tions.

‡ In the chancel, an inscription informs us, that, “Here lies the rev. John Lasby, and Elizabeth his wife, second daughter of Richard Sammes, esq., lord of this manor. He was rector of Goldanger and of this parish twenty-six years; and died in 1703, leaving his daughter Elizabeth lady of the manor.

There is also an inscription for John Sammes, esq., who died 18th of Oct. 1606: and of dame Isabel Sammes.

Benefac-
tion.

A farm, called Vouchers, in this parish, or in Great Totham, was left by Dr. Williams, for the education of a certain number of young men in Glasgow college.

§ Soil, light and gravelly. Average annual produce, wheat twenty-six, barley forty bushels per acre.

The name of this manor indicates its connexion with the adjoining parish: in the reign of Henry the third this lordship belonged to John de Iarpenvill, who, dying in 1259, left Roger Iarpenvill his heir;* who died in 1287. His heiress was his daughter Maud, married to Philip de Heveningham. In 1318 Roger de Heveningham died holding this estate, by knight's service; and Alice his widow, remarried to William de Maldon, had a third part of it in dower, with the advowson of the church, and other possessions, which she held till her decease in 1322: the two other parts of the manor were holden by her son Philip, who died before her in 1321. Sir John, son of Philip, held jointly with Joanna his wife this manor, of the dean of St. Paul's, London, and of the earl of Hereford. John, son and heir of sir John, succeeded his mother in these estates in 1394; and on his death in 1425 was succeeded by sir John, his son; on whose decease in 1499, his son Thomas Heveningham was his heir. In 1536, the manors of Goldanger and Totham, and the advowson of the church of Goldanger and of Totham chapel, were in the possession of sir John Heveningham; and the next owner was sir Anthony, who died in 1557; Henry his son; and Arthur Heveningham, esq., after he had manumised the tenants, sold this estate to John Brown, esq. attorney at law, who died in 1591: John Brown was his son; who, with Silvester his father's widow, and William Stark, sold "these manors of Little Totham and Goldanger," to John Sammes, esq. succeeded by his son sir John Sammes, whose heir was his son, sir Gerard Sammes, knt. who died in 1630, leaving his son Richard his heir; who married Frances, daughter of Thomas Still, esq., by whom, besides several sons and daughters, he had Anne, married to — Germaine of Wickham; Francis, who married —, daughter of — Waldgrave, afterwards wife of — Poley; and Elizabeth, wife of the rev. John Lasby, twenty-six years rector of this parish. Mr. Lasby purchased the lordship of this manor, and died in 1703, leaving Elizabeth his only daughter; on whose death without issue, Henry Germaine, son of Anne Sammes, inherited this manor, which he sold to Mr. John Price; and he left it to his eldest son, Robert Price, esq., serjeant at law, recorder of Colchester, who died in 1741. It afterwards belonged to Mr. John Cole of Colchester, who married one of the daughters of serjeant Price. Goldanger hall and the demesne lands were purchased of the widow of Francis Sammes and Henry Germaine, by the rev. Henry Barret, rector of Herthurst in Suffolk; and now belong to N. Wescomb, esq.

CHAP.
XIX.Manor of
Totham
with Gol-
dancer.

Robert Mantel gave the estate of Follifaunts to Bileigh abbey. The house is half a mile north-east from the church. It was granted by Henry the eighth to Stephen Beckingham; whose son Thomas, in 1573, sold it to John Sammes, gent. It afterwards belonged to alderman Clithero; and by female heirs was conveyed to William Waddis and Henry Heath: and passed into the possession of sir Nicholas

Folli-
faunts.

* This Roger had salt-works here, for which he paid a yearly rent to the king.

BOOK II. Gerrard, bart. of East Ham. Some of the Heveningham family are said to have resided here.

Fawlt. The manor-house of Fawlt is near the channel, half a mile west from the church: this estate belonged to Bileigh abbey, and after the dissolution was granted, in 1538, to Charles Brandon, duke of Suffolk; who, the same year, sold it to Robert Trapps, of London, goldsmith: whose son and heir, Nicholas, on his death in 1544, left his daughters Mary, wife of lord Giles Paulet, and Alice, wife of Henry Brown, his heiresses. A partition being made in 1565, this was the share of the lord Giles Paulet and Mary his wife, who sold it to Humphrey Shelton. In 1627, John Whigtacres had this estate; John Shaw was his cousin and heir. It afterwards belonged to the Coe family of Maldon.

Church. The church is dedicated to St. Peter; it has a nave and chancel, and the chancel has a chapel on the south. The steeple is of stone.*

The population of this parish in 1821 amounted to four hundred and fifty-nine, and to four hundred and ninety-six in 1831.

TOLLESHUNT MANGER, OR BECKINGHAM.

Tolles-hunt Manger. This parish extends northward from Goldanger. In the reign of Edward the confessor it belonged to a Saxon named Sercar. In some records the name Tolleshunt is written Touzon, and the secondary name is from Malger, who held it under Robert, son of Corbutio, at the time of the survey; this name has been corrupted into Malgri, and Major, and Magna, though it is the smallest of the three parishes named Tolleshunt. It is named Beckingham in the records of the time of Henry the eighth in the year 1543, when it was in the possession of Stephen Beckingham. The village is distant from Maldon four miles, and from London forty-one.

Tolles-hunt Beckingham manor. The manor-house is near the church, on the north-west: the ancient gateway of brick, with four embattled turrets, yet remains. Geoffrey de Tregoz or Darey, was lord of this manor in the time of king Stephen, and it was given by him to Coggeshall abbey. On the dissolution, in 1538, it was granted by Henry the eighth to sir Thomas Seymour, brother to the duke of Somerset; and he exchanged it with the king, who in 1543 granted it to Stephen Beckingham and his heirs; and it was retained by them till sold by Stephen Beckingham† in 1636, to sir Thomas Adams,

Inscriptions. * In the south chancel, on a stone: "Off your charitie pray for the soules of Anthony Heyham, gentleman, and his wyfe.

Also, on a tombe, the following: "Of your charitie, pray for the soules of Thomas Heigham, esq., Alys, Awdye, and Françes, his wyves. Tho. ob. ult. Dec. 1531.

Charity. A farm in this parish belongs to the charity-school at Witham.

† This Stephen was of the family of the Beckinghams, of Wiltshire; he was married to Anne, daughter of Hugh Unton, esq.; secondly, he married Avis, sixth child of sir Henry Tyrell, of Heron; and



knt. alderman of London; and sir William, his second son, sold it in 1674 to Mr. Thomas Fox, cheesemonger, of London, who married Hannah, daughter of Mr. Henry Bigg, merchant-tailor. After the death of her first husband, she was married to Mr. John Bradley; and in 1710 sold the reversion of this manor and estate to Dr. Daniel Williams; and he, by will, in 1711, settled it in trustees: sixty pounds of the income of it to be paid to two itinerant preachers, to preach to the negro slaves in the West Indies; and the remainder of the income of the estate he gave to the college of Cambridge in New England. There are three other estates in this parish, formerly named manors, which are believed to have formed a lordship held before the conquest, by Brun; and by Suene, at the survey.

This estate is named from the Higham family, its ancient owners: the mansion is near the road from Goldanger to Tollesbury.* Three successive proprietors lived here, named Robert Higham, followed by others of the family from 1427 to 1545; when this possession was conveyed to Stephen Beckingham, and it afterwards belonged to Mr. William Harris. Highams.

A considerable farm, named Joyces, belonged to the Higham and Beckingham families: the mansion is a mile and a half south-east from the church. Stephen Beckingham, esq. was the owner of it in 1558: on whose decease, in 1596, it became the property of sir Christopher Clitheroe, of Clitheroe, in Lancashire; and passed afterwards, by female heirship, to various families. Joyces.

The mansion of Wykes, a reputed manor, was on Tiptree-heath, near the parsonage called Renters. In 1525, it appears to have been granted to Cardinal Wolsey: afterward, it belonged to sir John Huddleston; and to Thomas Darcy in 1554; from whose family it passed to that of Sammes. It was purchased of George Sammes, by Mr. Elmer of Ipswich; and became the property of the Jenner family. Wykes.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, is a plain ancient building; the nave and Church.

his third and last wife was Elizabeth, daughter of William Browne, of Flamberts. By his first wife he had Thomas, Alice, Thomasine, and Elizabeth; by the second, one son; and by the third, two sons, of whom Stephen was the elder. Stephen, the father, died in 1558, and was succeeded in this and his other estates by Thomas, his eldest son, who, by his wife Mary, daughter of Thomas Hill, had Thomas (afterwards sir Thomas), Stephen, and Avisia. Sir Thomas, besides the capital mansion, had a park here, and a messuage called Brises hatch. By his wife Elizabeth he had William, who died before him, leaving William and Henry, his sons: sir Thomas died in 1633, and left his grandson William his heir; yet, in 1635, Stephen, brother of sir Thomas, had this estate. Arms of Beckingham: Argent, a fesse embattled, ermine, between three escallops sable. Crest: On a wreath argent, and ermine, a demy griffin segreant, argent, collared, winged, gules, holding in his right foot a drawn sword, argent, hilted and pomelled, or.

* Part of the old house has been joined to the more modern erection; and in this portion of the building, over a door, the following inscription has been preserved: "Concordia nutrit amorem."—Concord is the nurse of love.

BOOK II. chancel of one pace. There was formerly a chapel on the north of the chancel, but it has been destroyed; and the arched entrance into it has been walled up. This church belonged to the priory of Caldwell in Bedfordshire, founded by Simon Basset in 1152. The convent supplied a priest till 1530, when Dr. Stokesley, bishop of London, with the concurrence of the convent, instituted a vicarage.*

In 1821 there were in this parish four hundred and twenty-two inhabitants, and four hundred and twenty-eight in 1831.

TOLLESHUNT KNIGHTS.

Tolles-
hunt
Knights.

This parish extends from Tolleshunt Beckingham to Winstree hundred. The village is six miles from Maldon, and forty-one from London. There is a fair on the 29th of June.

Before the conquest, Ailmar, Alric, and eight freemen, were the owners of the lands of this parish, which belonged to Ralph Baynard and Godwin at the time of the survey. There are two manors.

Barn-
walden.

The modern name of this manor is Barn-hall; the house is very pleasantly situated, a mile north-east from the church, on the side of a hill, where the prospect toward Mersey island and the sea is highly interesting, and of wide extent.† Ralph Baynard was lord of this manor at the time of the survey; and on the forfeiture of his grandson William, it was given by Henry the first to Robert, son of Richard Fitz-Gilbert, and was retained by his descendants till 1301, when it was conveyed to Walter de Pateshull, from whose descendant, John de Pateshull, it passed to John de la Lee, who died in 1307.‡ Sir John atte Lee died in 1370; and Walter, his son, on his death in 1395, was succeeded by his three sisters; of whom Margery, married to Robert Newport, conveyed to him this estate: he died in 1428,§ and his

Inscrip-
tions.

* A Latin inscription, under the effigies of a man and woman, in the chancel, informs us, that "Here lies the bodies of Robert Higham, and Lettice his wife, which Robert died 23d June, 1427." There are also other epitaphs for the same family. In the east window, a Latin inscription, of which the English is, "Pray for the good estate of Robert, prior of Dunmow."

Formerly there was a stately monument in the north chapel, to the memory of Stephen Beckingham, of Tolleshunt Darcy, son of Stephen Beckingham, by his wife Elizabeth Browne. Here also lieth Avis Tyrell, wife of the aforesaid Stephen Beckingham, being the sixth child of sir Henry Tyrell, knt. of Herne. The aforesaid Stephen had one son by Avis his wife, and he himself lies here buried.

Charities.

Mr. Stephen Beckingham gave the sum of forty shillings for ever, payable out of a messuage called the Freme, in Tolleshunt Darcy.

Sir Christopher Clitheroe gave, out of Highams and Joyces, in this parish, three pounds per annum, for ever, to be paid at Christmas, at the communion table, to the minister and churchwardens, and to be by them distributed to twelve poor people that take no collection.

† Roman pavements were, some time ago, dug up near this manor-house.

‡ Sir Hen. Chauncy's Hist. of Hertfordshire, p. 147.

§ Ibid. p. 146.

descendants had this possession till, on the death of John Newport, esq. in 1524,* Grace, his only daughter and heiress, was married to Henry Parker, esq. son and heir of Henry Parker, lord Morley, from whom it successively passed to his son Henry, lord Morley, in 1550; Edward, lord Morley, in 1557; and William, lord Morley and Montegle, in 1618, on whose death in 1622, he was succeeded by his son Henry, who died in 1655; and Thomas, the last lord Morley and Montegle, sold this manor to Anthony Abdy, esq., from whom it descended to his son, sir Robert Abdy, bart., to sir John, sir Robert, and a second sir John, who left it to his aunt, Mrs. Cranke, for her life. It now belongs to J. R. H. Abdy, esq.†

The mansion of this manor is on the north side of a brook, from which it derives its name: it is a mile and a half north-west from the church. It belonged to Alric before the conquest, and at the Domesday survey was in the possession of Gondwin, being the only estate he had in this county. It was given to the abbey of St. Osyth at an early period, but by whom is not known. After the dissolution in 1539, it was granted by Henry the eighth to Thomas, lord Cromwell; and again passing to the crown, was, by the same monarch, given to the lady Anne of Cleve, his forsaken queen. In 1599, it was granted by queen Elizabeth to John Spencer, esq., afterwards sir John, alderman of London, who died in 1609.‡ His only daughter, Elizabeth, was married to William, lord Compton: who was succeeded by his son Spencer, earl of Northampton, slain on Hopton heath, near Stafford, in 1642, fighting for king Charles the first. This estate was afterwards sold to Ralph Fox, of London; from whose family it was conveyed to Marcellus Osborne, esq.

Brook-
Hall.

The church is in a low situation: it has a nave and chancel, with a wooden steeple, and is dedicated to All Saints.§

Church.

In 1821, this parish contained three hundred and seventy-six inhabitants, and in 1831, only three hundred and seventy-four.

* Arms of att Lec: Argent, on a cross azure five leopards' heads, or.—Arms of Newport: Quarterly, gules and azure, a lion rampant, or.

† The message and estate of Manyfield Wic goes along with this manor; the house is near the church.

‡ He was sheriff of London in 1583, and lord mayor in 1594: his funeral was attended by above one thousand men in black gowns and cloaks; among whom were three hundred and twenty poor men, with each a basket, in which were four pounds of beef, two loaves, a small bottle of wine, and a pound of candles, a candlestick, two saucers, two spoons, a black pudding, a pair of gloves, a dozen of points for shoe-strings, two red, and four white herrings, six sprats, and two eggs. His estate, left to lord Compton, was valued at fifty thousand pounds.

§ There are some ancient defaced monuments belonging to the family of Patteshull; and their arms appear in the east window of the chancel.

Inscrip-
tions.

Four pounds, out of lands called Rolles in Tollesbury, have been left to the poor of this parish, to be given in bread.

Charities.

John Croke gave four shillings and fourpence for an obit for ever, out of a tenement named Crossmans.

Obit.

BOOK II.

TOLLESHUNT DARCY.

Tolles-
hunt
Darcy.

This parish extends southward from Tolleshunt Knights, and lies between Tolleshunt Beckingham and Tollesbury. The village is seven miles from Maldon, ten from Colchester, and from London forty-one. There is a fair on the 11th of June.

Siuard and Gotra were the owners of these lands before the conquest: and at the survey they belonged to Robert Piperell, or Peverell, and Robert Gernon. There are three manors.

Tolles-
hunt
Darcy
with
Verli.

The mansion of this manor is near the church, on the south; and is an ancient building, surrounded by a moat, with a bridge of stone. After Ralph Peverell, his son William succeeded to this estate; and it was afterwards holden of the honour of Peverell, by the family of Tregoz, in the reign of king Stephen. In 1263, in the reign of Henry the third, Robert Tregoz had this manor, which Robert de Valoines died possessed of in 1282: Roese and Cecily were his daughters and co-heiresses. The estate became afterwards divided, and the subject of a legal contest. In 1316 it belonged to John de Boys, succeeded by proprietors of the same name in 1361 and 1403, the last of whom died in 1419, and was buried in the chapel in the north aisle of the church. His posterity are not named in the record; but this family, and that of Darcy, became united by intermarriages, and the latter retained possession till the death of Thomas Darcy, esq. He left five co-heiresses; Mary, wife of Christopher Nevill, third son of Edward, lord Abergavenny; Elizabeth, married to sir Henry Mildmay, knt. of Woodham Walter, younger brother to sir Thomas Mildmay, knt. and bart. of Moulsham hall; Bridget, wife of sir George Fenner, knt.; Frances, married to sir Henry Vane, knt. secretary of state to king Charles the first; and Margaret, wife of John Brown, esq.

In 1609, this estate was sold to Richard Hale, citizen and grocer of London, founder of the free-school at Hertford. It continued in his family till it was conveyed to William Hale, esq. M. P. for the county of Hertford in 1661 and 1678, to Abraham Hedgthorn of Colchester; whose widow and four daughters sold it, with some other lands, and the rectory, to sir Isaac Rebow, knt. of Colchester; and it now belongs to general Thomas Slater Rebow.

Gernons.

This manor, holden of the barony of Stansted Montfichet, under Robert Gernon, was in the possession of the family of De Verli in the year 1314; and belonged to Walter de Patteshull, who died in 1330. On the purchase of Stausted by one of the noble family of De Vere, earls of Oxford, Gernons was holden under them; Robert de Gedding held it of the seventh and eighth earls; in 1340, John de Boys; in 1384, Robert; and in 1399 to 1406 John Boys held this estate of the Vere family: it was given, by sir Thomas Darcy, bart. of Braxted lodge, to Frances, his daughter, married to sir William Dawes, bart. archbishop of York; whose son, sir Darcy

Dawes, enjoyed it after him ; and whose daughter, Elizabeth, conveyed it by marriage to Edwin Lascelles, esq. ; from whom it passed to his four sisters. CHAP.
XIX.

This estate appears to have formed part of Gernons manor, and was named from Robert de Verli, tenant to Robert de Gernon ; and remained in possessors named Verli till the year 1314 ; afterwards, it belonged to the Darcy family. Bridget Darcy had it for her purparty ; and her husband, sir George Fenner, sold Virli, and the mansion named Newick-house, to John Hawkins, esq., of Bocking, and alderman of London, who died in 1632. John, his son and heir, had a son named Robert, whose daughter and heiress, Frances, married to sir John Dawes, bart., brought this estate into that family. Virli.

This ancient seat was reckoned a manor : it is half a mile north from the church ; traditionally reported to have belonged to Richard, second son of Ralph Gernon, who married Sabina, daughter of Simon Lycombron, who died in 1458 : his only daughter, Helen, conveyed it to her husband, John Langbroke. His posterity, who enjoyed it, were Richard, father of John, whose son and successor was Richard. It afterwards passed to the Darceys, a younger branch of whom resided here, and afterwards at Patiswick. Sir Thomas Darcy, of Braxted hall, left it to his son, from whom it passed to his sisters ; afterwards, it belonged to sir Darcy Dawes, bart., and to his heirs. Langbrokes.

The church, dedicated to St. Nicholas, has a nave and chancel, and a north aisle, called Darcy's chapel, being the burial place of that family. The tower is of stone, embattled. This church formerly belonged to the priory of Tiptree ; but by whom it was given is not known.* Church.

This parish, in 1821, contained six hundred and sixty-five inhabitants ; and six hundred and ninety in 1831.

TOLLESBURY.

This parish occupies the eastern extremity of the hundred, extending to the sea, and the bay of Blackwater : on the west, it joins to the Tolleshunts, and to Gold- Tolles-
bury.

* There is a stately figure of a knight in armour, in Darcy's chapel, with a Latin inscription, to inform us, that " Here lies John de Boys, esq., formerly lord of the manor of Tolleshunt Tregoz, who died 15th of August, 1419." Also, under another knightly figure, " Here, under this stone, lieth Anthony Darcy, esq. justice of peace to our sovereign lord king Henry VIII., which Anthony deceyde 18 Oct. 1540." There are inscriptions also to the memory of Katharine, wife of Thomas Darcy, esq. who died 7 July, 1535, and several others belonging to the Darcy family ; and in the east window of the chancel are two shields with the family arms : or, two chevronels, gules and ermine, a cross, sable. Inscrip-
tions.

New house, or White house, in this parish, with lands extending into Tollesbury, were purchased by the trustees of Henry Smith, esq., who died in 1637 ; and besides his extraordinary munificence to almost every town and village in Surrey, left money to buy lands for the poor of fourteen parishes, of which four are in Essex, viz. : Braintree, Henham, Terling, and Tolleshunt Darcy. Charity.

BOOK II. anger. The Saxon name of the village, and which has been given to the parish, was Tollesbȳrig, the place where toll, or custom, was paid by ships entering the bay: the village is five miles from Maldon, and forty-two from London.

There is a fair on the last Thursday in June.*

Gudmund was the owner of the lands of this parish before the conquest; and, at the survey, they belonged to Eustace, earl of Boulogne; it was of the fee of Ingelric. The nunnery of Barking had lands here in Saxon times, and at the survey; a part of them were holden under the abbess, by Siuuard, and afterwards, by Ralph Peverel.

The name of Tollesbury is not found in records from the time of the survey to the year 1329; but is supposed to be what is named Tolleshunt Guisnes, or Guysnes, from Baldwin, earl of Guisnes, in France, ancient owner of it. This parish is divided into four manors.

Tolles-
bury
Manor.

The mansion of this lordship, named Bouchier's hall, is pleasantly situated a mile from the church, on the north-west: it is on rising ground, with an extensive prospect of the sea, and of Mersey island. The estate has been variously named, Tholshunta, Little Tholleshunt, Tholleshunt-Guisnes, Tolleshunt-Bouchier, the manor of Tollesbury, and Overhall.

In 1166, Robert Hend held this estate of the honour of Boulogne. In 1210 and 1211 it belonged to Robert le Hold; and afterwards, it had become the possession of Ernulph de Hordres; who gave it in marriage with his daughter, to Baldwin, earl of Guisnes, who held it as three knights' fees, in the reign of king John. Ernulph had, besides this estate, lands in Kent, Essex, and Bedfordshire; which, on his union with the confederate barons, the king took from him, and gave to Alan Marcell, a monk of Bury:† but, on the death of John, and the accession of Henry the third, Ernulph recovered his estates, and died possessed of them in 1222, and was succeeded by his son Baldwin, who left his possessions to his brother Robert.‡ Successive owners of this estate were, the earl of Gysnes, in 1251, succeeded by Fulk Basset, bishop of London; whose brother Philip§ was his heir, and had this estate at the time of his decease, in 1271: his daughter and heiress, Aliva, countess of Norfolk, was married, first to Roger le Bigod, earl of Norfolk; and, secondly,

* Average annual produce per acre: wheat twenty-four, barley forty-five bushels.

† Dugdale's Baron. vol. i. p. 758.

‡ This Robert de Guisnes had a license in 1247 to impark his wood of Tolleshunt, called Schiriches-hall, which had been of old enclosed for a park.

§ "Philip de Gysnes rose to great eminence in his time: in 1259, he was made governor of the castles of Oxford and Bristol; in 1260, constable of those of Corff and Sherburn, in Dorsetshire; in 1262, keeper of that of the Devizes in Wiltshire; in 1268, sheriff of the counties of Oxford, Berks, Somerset, and Dorset; and the same year, appointed chief justice of England. He fought valiantly for king Henry the third, at the battle of Lewes, being the last man that kept the field."—Hen. de Knighton, col. 2447; and Dugdale's Baronage.

to Hugh le Despenser, justice of England, slain in the battle of Lewes, fighting against Henry the third. But king Edward the first confirmed to her the manor of Tolleshunt, which had been forfeited by her last husband's rebellion. In 1280, she exchanged this estate with Hugh de Essex, for the manor of North Weld; and died in 1281. This Hugh was descended from a younger son of Henry de Essex, baron of Raleigh. Anne, his only daughter and heiress, was married to sir John de Preyers, of Preyers, or Boure hall, in Sible Hedingham; and conveyed to him this estate. Sir Thomas Preyers, their son, left Margaret, his daughter, his heiress; who, by marriage, conveyed this estate to Robert Bouchier, lord chancellor of England; and he kept his first court here in 1329, and died in 1349. The manor continued in this noble family till Anne, only daughter and heiress of Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, was married to William Parr, marquis of Northampton. Her heir was her kinsman, Walter Devereux, lord Ferrers, of Chartley, afterwards earl of Essex; he died in 1576; and his son, Robert Devereux, jointly with his brother Walter, and Christopher Blount, sold this estate to Thomas Gardiner the elder, and Thomas Gardiner the younger, in 1588. Thomas Gardiner died in 1590, and left three sons, Thomas, Christopher, and Jeremy. The eldest son, Thomas Gardiner, esq., married Jane, only daughter and heiress of Arthur Breame, esq., and had with her the manor of Bois hall, in Halsted: dying without issue, in 1638, he was succeeded by his brother Christopher, in whose descendants the estate continued, till it was conveyed by Jemima, daughter of Thomas Gardiner, esq., to her husband, Robert, duke of Colchester.* Afterwards, Mr. Thomas Hallam, or his executors, had this estate; and his only daughter, Mary, married to Philip Bennet, esq., conveyed it to that family.

The hall was formerly enclosed in a park; and another old park, named Shiricheshall, joins to Tolleshunt Knights.

The nunnery of Berking, or Barking, had this estate, which that house retained till the dissolution of monasteries. The mansion is named Tollesbury hall, and is situated near the church, on the south. Thomas lord Cromwell, a few days previous to his being created earl of Essex by Henry the eighth, had a grant of this estate; which, on his attainder, returned to the crown, and was appointed for the maintenance of the lady Mary, afterwards queen. In 1562, this manor was granted by queen Elizabeth to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk; who, imprudently entering into an agreement to marry the unfortunate Mary, queen of Scots, was on that account beheaded, in 1573; but Thomas, his son, by his second lady, Margaret, daughter of Thomas lord Audely, being restored in blood in 1584, this lordship was

St. Mary,
Barking.

* Arms of Gardiner: Azure, six griffins' heads arrachée, or. Crest, on a wreath of his colours, a griffin's head wounded with a broken lance proper, mantled, gules, doubled, argent.

BOOK II.

given to him by queen Elizabeth, in 1595; and it continued in this dignified family till it was sold, in 1701, by Charles, the eldest son and heir of William lord Howard, of Eserick, to Peter Whetcomb, esq., who left it to his daughters, Mary and Elizabeth; from whom it was afterwards conveyed to Henry Cornelison, esq., of Bracksted lodge; it was purchased with that estate and Tollesbury Wic, by Peter Ducane, esq., and has continued in his descendants to the present time.

Gorwell and Prentises.

Prentises is on the south-west end of the village; and Gorwell hall, or Gerwells, is half a mile distant from it, on the right of the road to Maldon. These estates, named manors, were subordinate to the capital manor of Bourchier's hall. They both belonged to Bileigh abbey, and were, after the dissolution of monasteries, granted to Thomas lord Cromwell; appropriated to the maintenance of the lady Anne, of Cleve; and, in 1566, granted by queen Elizabeth to Robert Dudley, earl of Leicester. These estates were afterwards separately sold to various proprietors, and have been occupied as farms.

Bohun's Hall.

Bohun's hall, vulgarly, Bown's hall manor-house, is near the church. This estate has belonged to some religious house, but of what denomination, or where situated, is not known. It is first mentioned in the record as granted to Thomas lord Cromwell in 1539; and was in the possession of Francis Craddock, and Gervaise Howley, in 1589; from whom it was conveyed to Margaret Whettell: but was, the same year, granted, by queen Elizabeth, to Thomas Mildmay and others, who, in 1603, sold it to sir James Altham, serjeant-at-law, and one of the barons of the Exchequer. Dying in 1616, he left his son, sir James Altham, knt., his heir; who, on his decease in 1624, left Sutton Altham, his son, his heir; whose sisters, Elizabeth and Frances, became his co-heiresses, on his death, in 1630. It afterwards belonged to Osmond Beauvoir, esq., of Downham.

Church.

The church has a nave and chancel, and a stone tower contains five bells. It is dedicated to the Virgin Mary.*

This church, with one of the manors, belonged to the nunnery of Barking; and the

Inscriptions.

* On a stone in the church there used to be figures of a man and woman, with two sons and nine daughters, and the inscription, "Pray for the soules of Thomas Freshwater, and Margaret his wife. Tho. ob. 15 Dec. 1517." Another stone, with a man and woman, and five sons and three daughters, was inscribed, "Pray for the soules of John Ranston, and Alys his wife. John ob. 7 Decem. 1510." At the east end there are some memorials of the family of Gardiners, of Bourchier's hall.

A tradition has been preserved by Mr. Symonds, that under a stone in the belfry, was buried the body of a beggar named Martin, who, on his death-bed, discovered two pots of money which he had hid, and appointed two bells to be bought with it; which were accordingly procured, and hung up. His figure in brass is said to have been formerly to be seen here.

Charities. Mr. John Taylor gave out of lands here, three pounds per annum to poor labouring men who receive no collection.

A benefaction of sixteen pounds per annum is paid out of this parish to the poor of Saffron-Walden.

rectory and advowson passed to the crown on the dissolution of that house. In 1607, CHAP.
XIX. king James the first granted them to sir Roger Aston, and John Grimditch; and they, soon after, conveyed them to Thomas and John Freshwater, esqrs. The rectory is a small manor, to which belong thirty acres of copyhold, and ten acres of demesne lands, and some houses, and all the great tithes of the parish.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to nine hundred and fifty-eight, and, in 1831, to one thousand and sixty-six.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN THE HUNDRED OF THURSTABLE.

R. Rectory.	C. Chapelry.	V. Vicarage.	† Discharged from payment of first-fruits.		
Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Goldanger, R.....	Colchester.	C. W. Shuckburgh ..	1798	25 14 9	N. Westcombe, esq.
Heybridge, V.....	Pecul.	F. J. Waring	1798	10 0 0	Dn. & Ch. of St. Paul's.
Langford, R.	Colchester.	W. Westcomb	1813	10 4 9½	Mrs. Westcomb.
Tollesbury, V. ....	.....	William Morgan	1826	16 6 3	Sir W. B. Rush, knt.
Tolleshunt Darcy, V.	.....	John C. Driffield....	1819	† 18 10 0	Gen. & Mrs. Rebow.
Tolleshunt Knights, R.	.....	C. W. Carwardine....	1805	16 13 4	Lord Chancellor.
Tolleshunt Manger, V.	.....	Robert P. Crane....	1810	† 8 0 0	Rev. J. S. Dunn.
Totham, Great, V....	.....	Geo. S. Townley....	1777	† 10 0 0	Mrs. Honeywood.
Totham, Little, C....	.....	R. of Goldanger	1798	Not in charge.	W. Goldhanger Recty.
Wickham Bish, R... ..	.....	Thos. Leigh	1803	12 3 4	Bishop of London.

CHAPTER XX.

HUNDRED OF WINSTREE.

THIS hundred is bounded by Thurstable on the west, and eastward by the river Colne; and by Lexden on the north. Its greatest extent, from east to west, is nine miles, and five from north to south. Edward the Confessor is believed to have given this hundred to the priory of West Mersey, which it retained till its suppression as an alien priory, when this estate passed to the crown. There are twelve parishes in this hundred. Laver Marney, Laver Breton, Laver de la Hay, Abberton, Fin-gringhoe, Langenhoe, Peldon, Great Wigborough, Little Wigborough, Salcot Verli, West Mersey, East Mersey. CHAP.
XX.
Winstree.

There is an apparent inconsistency in dignifying these small districts of Thurstable

and Winstree with the name of hundreds, when the larger districts of Becontree and Harlow are only reckoned half hundreds. This may perhaps be properly accounted for, by considering that, when the divisions of hundreds were formed, in the Saxon times, Becontree and Harlow were chiefly forest land, thinly peopled; but that, on this coast, there were at that time many saltworks, and the navigation and commerce very considerable.

LAYER MARNEY.

Layer
Marney.

Of the three parishes named Layer, this is nearest to the hundred of Thurstable. The name is in records Layre, Leyre, Legra. This parish has right of pasturage on Tiptree heath. The village of Layer Marney is distant from Colchester six miles, and forty-seven from London.*

Two freemen, and a freewoman, had the lands of this parish before the conquest: and at the survey they belonged to the bishop of London. How long the bishops held this possession is not known. The Marney family had the chief estates as early as the reign of Henry the second: yet this parish is mentioned as holding of the bishop of London, as late as the year 1627.

The capital manor is named from the noble family of Marney,† who retained possession of it from the time of Henry the second, to that of Henry the eighth. The two co-heiresses of John lord Marney, who died in 1525, sold it to sir Brian Tuke, secretary to Cardinal Wolsey. Sir Brian, dying in 1545, was succeeded by his third son, George Tuke, esq., who married Margaret, daughter of William Morice, esq., of Cheping Onger, and, dying in 1573, his son Peter‡ sold it to sir Samuel Tryon, knt. and bart., of Bois hall, in Halsted. He died in 1627; and his son Samuel sold the estate to John Ellys, woollen-draper, and alderman of London, who again sold it to Nicholas Corsellis, of London, an eminent merchant, ancestor of the family of this name, seated at Wivenho, and in other parts of Essex. This estate now belongs to Matthew Corsellis, esq.

Layer
Marney
Tower.

This stately fabric is all that remains of Layer Marney hall, one of the earliest and largest buildings of brick in the kingdom. It was of a quadrangular form, enclosing a spacious court, the chief entrance to which was through the tower gateway that now remains. It consists of a lofty centre, of two stories, flanked at each

* The average annual produce per acre of the strong heavy lands of Layer Marney and Layer Breton is, wheat twenty-six, barley thirty-two bushels.

† The name in records is written, de Maren, de Marini, or Marinis, and de Marny. Hugo de Marini, or Marny, had the prebend of Tottenhall, in the church of St. Paul's, London, and was dean of that church, from about 1160 to 1181. See Newcourt, vol. i. p. 34, 213.

‡ Arms of Tuke. Per pale indented, azure and gules, three lions passant gardant, or, a mullet for difference.

angle by an octangular tower, rising from the ground to a considerable height. In each of these there are eight floors, or stories, all of which are lighted by small pointed windows; but the larger apartments, in the centre, have windows of a square form. Between the divisions of the windows, and on the summit of the building, there are curious mouldings and ornamental sculptures; and substantial imitations of stonework appear to have been used as facings, both in these and the larger apartments of the hall; they were formed of brick earth, cast in moulds. Attached to the east and west sides of the gateway, are considerable remains of old mansions, now converted into a farmhouse and offices. The towers rising from high ground, the uppermost floors or platforms command a very extensive view over the surrounding country, particularly to the west; and eastward, over the sea.

This capital messuage, on Heyn's green, was formerly reckoned a manor. It is first mentioned in 1523, after the death of lord Marney, as having belonged to him. Heyns.

The Camock family had this, and various other estates here. John Camock, gent., of Laver Marney, was the father of Robert, who died in 1585, holding this, and various other estates here and in the neighbouring parishes. Thomas Camock, by his wife Ursula Wyrley, had four sons and five daughters; and by his second wife, Frances, daughter of the earl of Warwick (to whom he was clandestinely married), he had two sons and eleven daughters. He lies buried in the church of All Saints, in Maldon. Successive owners of this estate were, the rev. James Boys, vicar of Coggeshall, and rector of Aldham; who, on his death, in 1725, was succeeded by his son, James Boys, esq., counsellor at law, who, by his wife Susan, had James, and nine daughters. Camocks.

An estate, named Laver Wic, has the mansion in this parish; but the lands are chiefly in Salcot Verli. Laver Wic.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, has a nave, north aisle, and chancel. It is a stately edifice, chiefly in the latter style of English architecture. There is a chapel in the east end of the aisle where it joins the chancel; it was begun by Henry, the first lord Marney, who directed in his will, that this chapel, he had begun, should be finished, with a substantial roof of timber, covered with lead,* and the windows glazed with imagery. Likewise, that a tomb of marble should be in the wall, betwixt the chancel and the said chapel, with his image, and those of his two wives; Thomasine on his right hand, and Elizabeth on his left. In this chapel he ordered mass to be celebrated by two priests, for his soul, the souls of his wives, and of his ancestors. Church.
Chapel.

John, lord Marney, by his will of 1524, appoints his own burial in the middle of the new aisle or chapel, and the tomb to be of such stone as his father's, or else of

* The lead was taken off, and cast into bullets, in the time of the civil wars.

BOOK II. grey marble: he appointed also an image of brass for himself; and, on either side of his image, one for each of his two wives. Also, that, on the west end, there should be an altar for a priest, to sing for him perpetually. He gave two hundred and fifty pounds towards new building the church.

Chantries. A college for a warden, and two chaplains for two chantries, was founded and endowed in 1330.*

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to two hundred and forty-six; and in 1831, to two hundred and seventy-five.

LAYER BRETON.

Layer
Breton.

This parish extends from Layer Marney eastward. Its name is from ancient owners. The name of Breton occurs in the list of those who came with William the Conqueror;† and the individual was, probably, one of those who attended Alan Fergent, earl of Bretagne, at the battle of Hastings, where he then commanded the

Inscrip-
tions.

* A marble tomb, in the chancel, with the figure of a knight in armour, is for William Marney, who by his will, dated 1414, ordered his body to be buried here. A monument on the south wall has the arms of Camock, impaling Everton and Badby. There is the following inscription: "Here under lieth buried, the body of Robert Camock, of Layer Marney, gent., who took to his first wife Elizabeth, one of the daughters of Richard Badby, gent., and by her had only one son, Thomas Camock, and five daughters: his second wife was Mary, one of the daughters of John Everton, gent., by whom he had no issue. He died 1st of March, 1585." The said Thomas Camock, his son, took to his first wife, Ursula, one of the daughters of John Wyrley, of Dodford, in the county of Northampton, esq., and had by her four sons and five daughters; and to his second wife, the only daughter of the right hon. sir Robert Riche, knt., lord Riche.

At the upper end of the chancel, against the wall, is a marble monument with these arms **Argent, a demy gryphon, segreant, or, collared azure; crest, a demy gryphon, collared azure: beneath is a Latin inscription, of which the following is a translation:** "Here rests Nicholas Corsellis, esq., lord of this manor, who is not lost, but gone before, having exchanged this life for a better, A.D. 1674, 19th day of Oct. aged seventy. This Nicholas, a Hollander (at the royal request, and induced thereto by encouragement), taught the English the admirable art of printing: his mercantile celebrity extended to the farthest Indian shores. He is now an inhabitant of heaven. His virtue and fame yet live."

There have been numerous shields in the windows of the chancel, with the arms of Marney, and their alliances; some of these remain; and between the north aisle and chancel, the figure of a knight in armour has the arms of Marney and Venables; and there are also two other similar figures with the same armorial bearing; there are also four tombs without effigies, inscriptions, or arms.

Charities.

An alms-house, of brick, with apartments for five poor people, was built here by appointment of the will of Henry lord Marney: it has a common kitchen and garden, and is enclosed with a brick wall. They were to have in their yard, yearly, twenty loads of wood, from his land, each of them towards his maintenance, ten pence a week, and a gown of Fuset-frieze every year, ready made. This building is said to have stood by the pond, coming from the house. It was of short continuance; for William Tipper and Robert Daw procured a grant of it from queen Elizabeth, and pulled it down and sold the materials.

A farm in this parish was given by Miss Prisca Coburne to St. Bartholomew's hospital.

† D'eudemare, Hist. du Roy Willaume le Bastard, p. 664.

rear of William's army. The name of Brito, Breton, or le Breton, is of great antiquity in this country. The village is distant from Maldon five miles, and from London forty-eight.

Under Edward the Confessor, the lands of this parish were holden by Ailmar; and at the time of the survey belonged to Ralph Peverel, whose under-tenant was Turolde. There is only one manor.

Lewis Brito granted lands here to St. John's college, in Colchester, which his son Ralph confirmed to that house; and also granted them two parts of the tithes of all his demesnes in Layre Breton, to hold by the service of eight pence a year. Adeliza, his widow, granted them ten shillings and eight pence yearly, in perpetual alms, for the good of her husband's soul; and their son, Robert le Breton, gave to the same monks eleven acres in this parish, for the souls of his father and mother, who were buried in that abbey. In the reign of Richard the first, Robert de Breton held lands near Audley, and was a benefactor to St. Botolph's Priory, in Colchester.* In the reigns of king John, and Henry the third, William le Breton held two knights' fees in this parish; and John le Breton was a knight banneret in this county in the time of Edward the first. In 1325, the manor and church of Laver Breton were settled for life on William Breton, and on Nicholas his son, and Isabel his wife, and the heirs of the said Nicholas, after the death of William, father of Nicholas. Nicholas succeeding his father, presented to the church in 1395. Richard de Breton held half a knight's fee here, and was taxed ten shillings for his reasonable relief for the marrying of Blanche, the eldest daughter of king Henry the fourth, with Lewis, afterwards duke of Bavaria, in 1402. This family appear to have removed from this place to Monkton Farley, in Wiltshire, some time previous to 1420.

Laver
Breton
Manor.

The Walden family, of Ongar park, were next possessed of this estate, from whom it passed, by marriage, to the Barlee family; and afterwards to various owners; till, in 1677, it became the property of sir Isaac Rebow, of Colchester, who died in 1728. The present owner of this estate is his descendant, general Thomas Slater Rebow.

The church is a plain building, tiled. There are some remains of a chapel, connected with the chancel.† Church.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to two hundred and fifty-nine, and to two hundred and sixty-two in 1831.

* Monast. Angl. vol. ii. p. 45.

† A tombstone, in the chancel, robbed of its effigies, bears a Latin inscription, to inform us that, "Here lieth Alice, formerly wife of Nicholas Breton, who died May 6, 1392." A monument near this is defaced; as is so another near the north wall. Monu-ments.

BOOK II.

LAYER DE LA HAYE.

Laver de
la Haye.

This is the most easternly of the three parishes named **Laver**, and occupies the north-western extremity of the hundred. There is a fair on the 15th of May. Distant from Colchester four miles, and from London forty-nine.*

The Saxon possessors of this district, before the Conquest, were **Alric** and **Luivin**, two freemen; and at the survey, it was in the divided possession of **Eustace**, earl of **Boulogne**, and **Hugh de Montfort**. There are three manors.

Manor of
Laver de
la Haye.

The mansion is on the north of the church; and the lands which belonged to earl **Eustace** form the estate. Its next recorded owners after the earl, were of the family of **De la Haye**. **Maurice de Haia**; his son **Ralph**; **Maurice**, and **Walter de la Haie**, sons of **Ralph**, were benefactors to **St. John's Abbey**, in **Colchester**.† In 1210, and 1211, **William de la Haye** was the recorded owner of this estate; and his successor was **William de Monkanesey**, or **Montchensi**; and the estate was for some time named "**Legre de Montchensy**." In 1264, **Lucia**, widow of **Ralph de la Haye**, sued **William de Montchensy** for "her reasonable dower, wherewith her husband **Ralph** had endowed her when he espoused her at the church door;" and the said **William** granted her the manor for life, in the name of dower; the reversion of it to come to him and his heirs for ever. In 1313 it belonged to **William de Montchensy** and his wife **Alice**, who were succeeded by their son **William**. It was one of the fees of **Edmund Plantagenet**, earl of **Kent**, in 1330; and holden of him, in 1353, by **Hugh de Nanton**, whose wife **Agnes** was remarried, after her first husband's death, to **Thomas Bretoun**, in 1358, who held this manor of the king, by knight's service. **Edward Nanton** was the son and heir of **John**; and the estate was, for a time, named after the family, "**the manor of Nanton**." It afterwards belonged to the family of **De Tey**, or **Tay**, of **Marks Tay**: **Roger de Tay** married **Edith de la Haye**, and had by her **Thomas**, who, by **Emma** his wife, daughter of — **Nawton**, had **Martin de Tey**. **Sir Robert de Teye** was his great-great-grandson, and died possessed of this estate in 1426: his successors were, his son **John**, in 1440; **John**, son of **John**, in 1445. **Robert Tey**, of **Copford**, who died in 1473; **William Tey**, esq., his son, in 1502; **Thomas Tey**, esq., in 1543; and his son **John**, in 1568, whose son **Thomas** ‡ sold it, in 1596, to **Peter Bettenson**, esq., of the family of **Bettenson**, of **Foxton**, in **Staffordshire**: he died in 1624, and his brother **Richard Bettenson**, esq., was his successor; who married **Katharine**, daughter of **George Tuke**, esq., of **Laver Marney**,

* One-third of this parish is light turnip-land, and two-thirds too strong to feed of that crop on the land. The heavy land is a shallow surface, on a very strong loam bottom; this loam would make good tiles; it is very wet, but land-draining has no effect.—*Young*.

† Register of **St. John's Abbey**, fol. 94—96.

‡ Arms of **de la Haye**:—Argent, on a fesse gules, two mullets of the first, between six martlets, sable.

and had by her Richard and Thomas. Sir Richard Bettenson, knt., married Anne, daughter of sir William Monyns, bart., of Kent; and sir Richard Bettenson, knt. and bart., was of Winbleton, in Surrey. The estate afterwards was, by co-heiresses, sold to colonel John Brown, of Huberth hall, in Harlow; from whom it was conveyed to sir Roger Burgoyne, bart.

The manor-house is a quarter of a mile from the church, on the south-east: the estate is what belonged to Luivin the Saxon, and to Hugh de Montfort, after the conquest. It was given, with the church of this parish, to St. Botolph's priory, in Colchester; which appropriation was confirmed by king Richard the first.* It is traditionally stated to have been originally given for the support of a community of knights who had lost their eyes and limbs in the crusades. After the dissolution of the monastery, this manor, with the rectory, and advowson of the church, were granted, by Henry the eighth, in 1536, to sir Thomas Audeley, chancellor of England, who died possessed of them in 1544, and left them, by will, to his brother Thomas, for life, and after his decease to his eldest son. Thomas Audeley, esq., who died in 1572, and whose son Robert, dying in 1624, left Henry (afterwards sir Henry, knt.) his son, his heir. He married Anne Packington, by whom he had Thomas; Henry, who died young; Katharine, wife of Henry Barker; Mary and Abigail: by his second wife, Anne Daniel, he had Henry. Thomas, the eldest son, dying unmarried and intestate, Henry his brother inherited the estates; and on his death, this manor became the property of James Smyth, esq., of Upton; who dying unmarried, in 1741, was succeeded by his great nephew, sir Trafford Smyth, bart.; and it now belongs to sir Henry George Smyth, bart., of Berechurch hall.

Blind
knights.

The mansion of this estate is half a mile northward from the church. In 1290 it was given to St. John's abbey, in Colchester, by John de Ry; and retained by that house till its dissolution. It was granted to lord chancellor Thomas Audeley in 1536, from whose family it passed to sir Robert Smyth, bart., and belongs now to his descendant, sir H. G. Smyth.†

Manor of
Rye.

The church is a plain building, with a stone tower, in which there are five bells.‡

Church.

In 1621 the population of this parish amounted to six hundred and three, and in 1831 to six hundred and thirty-seven.

* Monast. Angl. vol. ii. p. 41.

† Some houses on the road, where there used to be an ancient cross, have retained the name of Layer cross.

‡ On the floor of the chancel, a stone has an inscription to the memory of Christian, wife of Joshua Warren, of this parish, merchant, daughter of Samuel Avery, of London, alderman. Ob. 23 June, 1500. On a monument, on the north side of the chancel, with two effigies: "Of your charite pray for the soules of Thomas Tey, esq., some time of this towne of Leyer, Ob. 1500; and Jane his wife, on whose soule, and all christen soules, Jeshu have mercy." There have formerly been other memorials of the same family, and the arms of Tey are in the east window.

Inscrip-
tions.

BOOK II.

ABBERTON.

Abberton. This parish, extends eastward from Laver de la Haye: in records, the name is written Aburton, Adburton, Adburgeton, &c. The village is four miles and a half from Colchester, and fifty-five from London.*

The Saxon owners of the lands of this parish before the conquest, were Siward, and two others, freemen; and at the survey, the possessors of them were Eustace, earl of Boulogne, whose under tenant was Ralph de Merci; Ralph Peverel; and Suene, whose under tenant was Odo. There are two manors.

Abberton
Hall.

After earl Eustace, the next recorded owner of this estate was Osbert de Brightlingsey, in 1247; and his next heirs were his sisters, Aveline, wife of Peter de Aldham; Joane, wife of Roger de Blakeham; and Roese, wife of Richard Munerum. Aveline, the eldest, afterwards a second time married to — de Ramesey, sold this estate to William de Montchensi, who conveyed it to the abbey of St. Osyth; which retained possession of it till it was conveyed, in 1538, by John Colchester, abbot of St. Osyth, to sir Thomas Audeley, at that time chancellor of the court of Augmentations; who, by will, gave this manor to his executors for twelve years, and then to his brother Thomas for life; and, after his decease, to his nephew, Thomas Audeley, esq. and his heirs: passing, as devised, from lord Audeley to his brother, and his nephew; and then to Robert, and to sir Henry Audeley, knt.; the latter settled it, with the manor of Badcocks, in this parish, on his marriage with Mrs. Anne Packington, as he had settled the church of Laver de la Haye.

Badcocks.

The manor house of Badcocks is a quarter of a mile north-west from the church; it is what belonged to Ralph Peverel, and Odo, at the survey. No further mention of it occurs, except, as is supposed, it was the estate which belonged to Alice le Despenser, daughter and heiress of Philip Basset, at the time of her decease, in 1281: Hugh le Despenser was her son and heir. It appears to have been the land that Thomas Whot and John Henny gave to St. Botolph's priory, in Colchester, in 1398. In 1523, Thomas Springe died possessed of "the manor of Adburton called Badcocks." Thomas lord Audeley, who died in 1544, had this estate; as had also his nephew, Thomas Audeley, esq., who died in 1572; and was succeeded by his son Robert; whose son, sir Henry Audeley, knt., settled it upon his wife, Mrs. Anne Packington; and it passed, as the tithes of Laver de la Haye, to Francis Canning, esq.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is a small plain building, with a steeple of brick.

In 1821, there were two hundred and three inhabitants; and in 1831 two hundred and two.

* Average annual produce, wheat twenty-four, barley thirty-six bushels per acre.

FINGRINGHOE, OR FINGRINGHOU.

Fingring-
hoe.

This parish is on the north-east border of the hundred; it is not mentioned in the record of Domesday, but in the charter of king Edward the Confessor, in 1046, he has granted West Mersey to the abbey of St. Ouen, at Roan, in Normandy; and it is therefore supposed to have been reckoned part of the possessions of that monastery, and included in their valuation. The name is written, Fyngeringho, Fyngyngghoo, Fingrithe; apparently from the Saxon, Fingep, ing, and hou. In Æthelfledes' will, it is called Fingingpaho. The village is on the road from Maldon to Colchester, from the latter of which it is distant four miles, and fifty-five from London. There is a fair here on Easter Monday.*

There is only one manor in this parish; and the hall is on the south of the church. The Confessor's grant to the foreign abbey, was confirmed by the Conqueror; Henry the first granted to that monastery free warren here; which privilege was confirmed by Henry the second;† who also renewed their original charter. King Edward the third, during his wars with France, seized this manor as belonging to an alien priory; he appears, however, to have afterwards restored it to them again, for the prior of Mersey presented to the vicarage in 1368: but, in 1733, the king again presented, as did his grandson and successor, Richard the second, in 1393.‡ In 1414, king Henry the fifth entirely suppressed the priories alien, and granted this estate to Henry Chicheley, archbishop of Canterbury, who made it part of the endowment of his college of Higham Ferrers, in Northamptonshire;§ and the master and fellows presented to the vicarage from 1434 to 1534. After the dissolution of religious houses, in 1512, this manor was granted, by Henry the eighth, with the rectory and advowson of the vicarage, to Robert Dacres, esq. and his heirs; together with the half hundred of Winstree. He died in 1543, leaving George, his son, his heir: but in 1553, king Edward the sixth granted the manor, with those of West Mersey, Petcham, and appurtenances, to Thomas lord Darcy, of Chiche, and his heirs. He died in 1558; as did John lord Darcy, his son and successor, in 1580. Thomas lord Darcy, his son and heir, was created viscount Colchester in 1621; and, in 1626, earl Rivers. He died in 1639; Thomas, his son, having died before him, without issue, his estates descended to his four daughters, co-heiresses, Elizabeth, Mary, Penelope, and Susan. Elizabeth, the eldest, was married to sir Thomas Savage, of Rock-savage, in Cheshire, knt. and bart. He died in 1635; and his widow and the trustees, in 1648, conveyed this manor of Fingringhoe, with appurtenances, to George Frere, merchant, of London; who left it, by will, to his nephew, John Goddard, gent.; whose son, of the same name, sold it, in 1707, to Marmaduke

Fingring-
hoe Hall.

* Average annual produce per acre; wheat twenty-two, barley twenty-six bushels.

† Monast. Angl. vol. i. p. 552. ‡ Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 226. § Monast. Angl. vol. iii. part 2, p. 175.

BOOK II. Rawdon, gent., son of Marmaduke Rawdon, esq., of Hoddesdon, in Hertfordshire, by Esther, daughter of Abraham Corsellis, of East Smithfield, London, merchant; brother of Nicholas Corsellis, esq.* Marmaduke, the son, was an attorney, at Colchester: by Dorothy, his wife, eldest daughter of John Freeman, gent.; he had Dorothy, who died young; and Esther, first married to Mr. Plumer, of Hoddesdon, by whom she had no issue; afterwards, to Joseph Keeling, esq., to whom she conveyed this estate, but died without offspring.† He afterwards married Mrs. Alice Slaney, by whom he had Joseph, John, William, and Mary.‡

Church. The church, dedicated to St. Andrew, is near the channel; it has north and south aisles, a nave, and chancel, with a tower of flints and stone. §

The amount of the population of this parish, in 1821, was four hundred and seventy-two; and five hundred and forty-two in 1831.

LANGENHOE.

Langenhoe.

This small parish extends southward from Fingringhoe, and is near the island of Mersey. The name is written in records Langhou, Lagenho, Langynhoo, &c. supposed from the Saxon Langhou, long hill. The village is on the road from Maldon to Colchester; from the latter place, distant four miles; and from London fifty-two.||

Ingelric was the Saxon owner of this estate in the reign of Edward the confessor;

* Arms of Rawdon:—Argent, a fesse gules, charged with a lion current, or, between three pheons, sable; on a dexter canton, a rose, gules, pierced, argent. Crest: On a closed helmet, upon a green hill, a griffin, with wings expanded, or.

† Arms of Keeling:—Sable, a lion erect, holding in his paws an escutcheon with a cross crosslet, fitché. Crest: Out of a mural crown, a demy lion, as above.

‡ A customary of Fingringhoe, Petchall, and West Mersey, made at a court, held at Petchall and West Mersey, the Tuesday after Whitsuntide, by Thomas Bonham, esq., king's steward, and William Pirton, esq., bailiff of the said manors, in 1520. Thomas Camock, general surveyor to the lord John Darcy, August 12, 1572, took a draught of it; the lords are to have all manner of advantages of the admiralty of the sea within the towns of West Mersey, Fingringhoe, and Petchall; and the finder of the said wreck to have half thereof, or the like advantage, after the use of the admiral court. The lord, or his farmer, must keep a common bull, or boar. The eldest daughter succeeds to copyhold estates, not partable. The corporation of Colchester, by the charter of king Richard the first, confirmed by other subsequent ones, had the fishery in the river Colne, from Northbridge to Westnesse; which they thought included all the creeks within the same; but Marmaduke Rawdon, esq., recovered from them the fishery in the creeks called North and South Geedon, as belonging to his manor of Fingringhoe.

Charities. § John Frere, esq., gave fifty-two shillings yearly, to be distributed to the poor in bread, out of the hall estate. Fourteen acres of land, named Hame, or church-lands, were given for the repairs of the church.

|| Land, strong and heavy. Average annual produce per acre; wheat twenty-eight, barley thirty-two bushels.

and, at the time of the survey of Domesday, it belonged to Eustace, earl of Boulogne. There is only one manor. CHAP.
XX.

The mansion of ~~Langenhoe~~ hall is near the church, on the south. After earl Eustace, the next recorded owner of lands here is John le Despenser, who, in 1824, with Margaret, his wife, daughter and heiress of Clement de Ryseing, recovered two carucates of arable land, and sixty acres of wood in Langenhoe, of Almaric Pêche. The Fitzwalters were lords paramount here; and under Robert lord Fitzwalter, who died in 1328, this manor was holden by Lionel de Bradenham, a man who is distinguished in the record as guilty of numerous acts of injustice—of robbery and murder. He endeavoured to appropriate to himself that part of the royalty of the river Colne, named the Geedons, which belonged to the corporation of Colchester; and, pretending that they lay within his manor, he enclosed them with piles. A commission being granted, in 1362, to Robert de Herle, lord admiral, to inquire, by the oaths of legal men and true: it was, after several sessions and adjournments, declared and adjudged, by advice of council, that Lionel de Bradenham had nothing to do there. However, he still continued his encroachments; and another writ was issued, in 1363, to inquire of the matter, and of several enormities committed by him. In 1364, he was forced to sue for a pardon, in which it is set forth, that he was guilty of many felonies, and had besieged Colchester for a quarter of a year, with two hundred men, attempting to burn it: and retained at his house, in Langenhoe, several thieves, or robbers, as his servants; and had caused three or four persons to be drowned in South-Geedon, for which he took sanctuary.* In 1368, he passed this manor, and the advowson of the church, to John de Sutton, the son, and Richard his brother, and others; and sir John de Sutton held it, under Walter lord Fitzwalter, who died in 1386.† In 1406, it was holden under Walter lord Fitzwalter, by John de Boys.‡

John Browne, who died in 1468, held this manor of the warden of the college of Higham Ferrers: he was succeeded by his brother Thomas, who left it to his son Robert; and he held it of the master and fellows of the college, as of their manor of Pete hall: on his death, in 1489, he left his son William his heir, then only fifteen years of age. In 1530, John Browne, esq., died possessed of this estate; and was succeeded by George Browne, esq., his eldest son and heir; who, dying in 1558, left Wistan Browne, esq., his heir: he died in 1580; and his son and heir, sir Anthony, died in 1589. This last, leaving no issue, his two sisters were his heirs; Katharine was married to Nicholas Waldegrave, esq.; and Jane, first to Edward Wyatt, and afterwards to Gamaliel Capel, esq.; and they all jointly kept a court here

Langen-
hoe Hall.

* The inhabitants of this and the neighbouring parishes, have licenses yearly from the corporation of Colchester, for fishing and dredging in their royalty of Colne-water.

† The Sutton family was of Wivenhou.

‡ It had been holden by his father, John Boys, under Lionel de Bradenham, in 1361.

BOOK II. in 1585; as did the said Nicholas and sir William Petre, in 1605. **Nicholas Waldegrave, esq.,** who died in 1621, had this estate, and left Philip his son his heir. The estate appears to have remained in trustees from 1628 to some time after 1636: but it continued in the Waldegrave family, and belonged to Philip Waldegrave, esq., who kept his first court here in 1666: his son John succeeded, and left Philip Waldegrave, esq., his heir; who, dying without issue, in 1720, gave this, and his estate at Borley, to his kinsman, of the eldest branch of the family, James lord Waldegrave, created earl Waldegrave in 1729; and it has remained in the descendants of this dignified family to the present time.

Pewet island. A small island, between Mersey creek and Parrock, belongs to earl Waldegrave, and is let with the hall; it is called Pewet island.

Church. In the window of the chancel of this church are many shields of arms; and, joining to the north wall, there are some remains of a chapel or oratory. The tower is of stone.

There were one hundred and thirty-one inhabitants in this parish in 1821, and one hundred and forty-six in 1831.

PELDON.

Peldon. This parish lies west from Langenhoe, and the village is on the Maldon road to Colchester, where the ground rises a considerable height, especially where the church is situated. The name, of uncertain origin, is in records written, Peltendune, Pellingdon, Poltingdon, &c. Distant from Colchester five miles, and from London forty-seven.* Two freemen, of whom one was named Turchill, held the lands of this parish before the Conquest; and William the Deacon, and Suene, and his under-tenant Odo, had possession of them at the time of the survey. There are two manors.

Peldon Hall. The mansion of the manor of Peldon is near the north side of the church. This estate was granted by the Conqueror to William the Deacon, about the year 1096, towards rebuilding the cathedral church of St. Paul, which had been recently destroyed by fire.† This manor was, in consequence, holden of the bishops of London. It was so holden, in 1282, by Walter de Peltindone, who conveyed it to John de Nevill and Margery his wife; and in 1332 it passed from John de Langwoode to Hugh de Nevill: and John Nevill, of Essex, who died in 1358, held, for his life, and the life of his wife Alice, "this manor of Peltynghdon, with the advowson of the church, of the bishop of London; remainder to William de Bohun, earl of Northampton, and his heirs." Michael de la Pole, earl of Suffolk, and lord chancellor,

* Strong land:—Average annual produce per acre; wheat twenty-four, barley thirty-six bushels

† According to the literal meaning of the grant—"All the land that William the Deacon, and Raulf, his brother, of me holdeth and hath."—Dugdale's Hist. of St. Paul's; and Godwin's Catalogue of Bishops.

had this manor; but was deprived of it, on his banishment, as one of the evil counsellors of king Richard the second. In 1426, Robert Tey, of the family of that name, of Marks Tey, died possessed of this manor, which was retained by his descendants, till, on the partition of the estates of sir Thomas Tey among his four co-heiresses, this manor fell to the share of Frances, married first to William Bonham, esq., next to Edward Bocking, and lastly to Thomas Bonham. It afterwards passed to the crown.

In 1545 king Henry the eighth granted this manor, and the advowson of the church, to sir Thomas Darcy, knt. (afterwards lord Darcy), and his heirs male. He died in 1558, and was succeeded by John lord Darcy, his son, who died in 1580: his son, Thomas lord Darcy, was created viscount Colchester in 1621, and earl Rivers in 1626. He died in 1639, leaving four daughters, Elizabeth, Mary, Penelope, and Susan, his co-heiresses. Elizabeth, the eldest, was married to sir Thomas Savage, knt., who died in 1635; and her father, the earl, having appointed her his executrix, she, in 1647, settled this estate in Richard viscount Lumley, Henry Nevill, of Cressing Temple, and Isaac Creme, gent., as trustees; and they sold it to Mr. Thomas Reynolds, who kept his first court here in 1650.* His descendants retained this possession till, on the death of Charles, son of Samuel Reynolds, without surviving offspring, he left this, and other estates, to his kinsman, the rev. William Samuel Powell, D. D., archdeacon of Colchester, and master of St. John's college, in Cambridge.

The rectory is a manor, and had thirty acres of land belonging to it at the time of the survey. It keeps a court, and hath some quit-rents, out of which three pounds a year are paid to the crown by the rector. Rector.

There was a church here at the time of the survey; but, if the present be that original erection, it has undergone frequent and considerable alterations. It is dedicated to the Virgin Mary. The nave is of one pace with the chancel, and the tower is of stone. Church.

* He was born near Ipswich, in Suffolk; and, settling at Colchester, in the clothing business, acquired a large estate: his residence was in a good brick house, of his own erection, without Eastgate. In 1602 he was mayor of Colchester; and marrying Margery, daughter of Samuel Decoster, had by her four sons and four daughters. On his death, in 1665, he was buried in the south aisle of St. James's church. His eldest son, Samuel, was his heir, who was M.P. for Colchester in 1681 and 1688. He married Judith, daughter of Thomas Samford, esq., of Colchester, by whom he had Samuel, George, Thomas, John; Judith, and Susan. He died in 1694, and was buried near his father. Susan, the youngest daughter, was married, first to Mr. George Jolland; afterwards to the rev. Francis Powell. She died in 1750, having had, by her second husband, William Samuel Powell, William, and Susan. Samuel Reynolds, esq., eldest son and heir of Samuel, who died in 1694, married Frances, daughter of Charles Pelham, esq., of the noble family of Pelham, duke of Newcastle. Arms of Reynolds: Sable, a chevron, chequy argent and sable, between three crosselets, fitché, argent; on a chief, sable, three estoiles, argent. Crest: On a torse of his colours, and a closed helmet, a wolf's head, erased collared sable.

BOOK II. The population of this parish in 1821 amounted to four hundred and thirty-eight, and only to four hundred and twenty-four in 1831.

GREAT WIGBOROUGH.

Great
Wigbor-
rough.

This is the largest of the two parishes of this name; in records written, Weigheberga, Wigheberga, Wigberwe, Wykebyrh. The Saxon *þig*, a battle; *bupg*, or *buph*, a fort; may, as is supposed, have been the original name. There have, undoubtedly, been engagements between the ancient inhabitants and piratical invaders in this neighbourhood; and the remains of a tumulus, near the church of Great Wigborough, may mark the burial-place of men slain in battle. Great Wigborough contains about two thousand acres of land; the village is on the road between Maldon and Colchester; from the latter place distant eight miles, and from London forty-six.*

A portion of this parish belonged to the nunnery of Barking, before and after the Conquest; and Aluric, a Saxon freeman, had another part, which was in the possession of Hugh de St. Quintin, at the time of the survey. There were, therefore, two manors.

Abbots',
or Abbess'
Hall.

The mansion of Abbots', or Abbess'-hall, is a large ancient building, a mile south-west from the church, and not far from Salcot Virli. This estate belonged to the celleresse of the nunnery of Barking,† and continued in that house, or in the priory of St. Osyth, till the dissolution of monasteries; when, in 1540, it was granted, by Henry the eighth, to Thomas lord Cromwell; from whom, again passing to the crown, it was included in the estates appropriated to the maintenance of the princess Mary, afterwards queen. In 1545 king Henry granted it to Charles Tuke, esq.; and, on his death, in 1547, his heir was his son, George Tuke, esq. In 1562, queen Elizabeth granted this estate to Thomas Howard, duke of Norfolk; on whose arraignment and execution, this and his other estates were confiscated; but, in 1597, was, by queen Elizabeth, restored to his second son, Thomas, baron Howard of Walden, created earl of Suffolk in 1603.‡ Dying in 1626, he was succeeded by his eldest son and heir, Theophilus, earl of Suffolk; who died in 1640, leaving this estate to his eldest son and heir, James Howard, earl of Suffolk; and he, in 1647, sold it to Chaloner Chute, esq., and John Aylett, gent., of Fering, together with the manor of Salcote, in Wigborough; and it was afterwards conveyed, by John Aylett, to sir Mark Guyon, of Coggeshall, knt., who presented to the rectory in 1688; and

* Soil of the Wigboroughs: a strong tenacious loam, of a rich brown colour, to the depth of six or seven feet. There are no springs. Hollow draining useless. Expense of working very great; but the crops heavy. Average annual produce per acre; wheat twenty-four, barley thirty-two bushels.

† Monast. Angl. vol. i. p. 80.

‡ Dugdale's Baron. vol. ii. p. 276. Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 663.

he bequeathed it, by will, in 1689, to his son William; and if he died without issue male, to his two daughters, Elizabeth and Rachel. Elizabeth became the wife of Edward Bullock, esq., of Falkborne hall, and died in childbed, as did also her child, within the month. The other daughter, Rachel, was married to Thomas Guyon, esq., and afterwards to John Bullock, esq., of Dynes hall, in Great Mapleston, younger brother of the said Edward: they had issue, John, who did not marry, and Rachel, who also died unmarried, and without a will, in 1765, when her real estates descended to her kinsman and heir-at-law, John Bullock, esq., of Falkborn hall; and it now belongs to his descendants.

The mansion of the estate of Abbots' Wic is in this parish, but the lands extend into Salcot Verli. It belonged, in 1645, to colonel Thornhill; and afterwards to Mrs. Crank.

Abbots
Wic.

The manor-house of Mulsham, or Moulsham, is near the church, on the north-east. Aluric, a freeman, had this estate in the time of Edward the Confessor; and at the survey it belonged to Hugh de St. Quintin. Afterwards it was holden of the honour of Mandeville, by the families of Patteshull,* Att Lee, Barle, and Leven-thorp. Part of this estate belonged to sir John Peake, lord mayor of London in 1687; and his only daughter, Margery, conveyed it to her husband, sir John Shaw, bart.,† of Eltham, who died in 1721, leaving his son John heir to his title and estates; who, in 1716, married Anna Maria, one of the daughters and co-heiresses of sir Thomas Barnardiston, bart., of Kedington hall, in Suffolk, and dying in 1739, was succeeded by his only son, sir John Shaw, bart. A third part of this estate belonged to John Wale, esq., of Calne priory.

Mulsham.

The church is on a hill of considerable height, commanding an extensive prospect toward the sea, and on the coast, and in every direction. It is dedicated to St. Stephen.‡

Church.

Salcot Wigborough is a hamlet to Great Wigborough; and there is a pound near

Salcot
Wigbo-
rough.

Arms of Pateashull: Argent, a fesse, between three crescents, sable. On the roof of Salcot Wigborough church.

† His father, sir John Shaw, knt., created a baronet in 1665, proved a faithful subject and true friend to king Charles the second, in his exile, sending him large sums of money to Brussels and Antwerp, when there appeared little or no probability of his restoration. He was, in consequence, favoured with a seat in parliament, without the trouble and expense of a canvass; and also, besides the dignity of a baronet, had the profitable place of being one of the collectors of the customs. His family had estates at Birch, and other parts of this county.

‡ There is an inscription in the chancel, on John Bajon, and Margaret, his wife: he died 10th of Sept. 1480. On a marble, in the chancel: To the memory of "Anne Bullock, late wife of John Bullock, ob. 20 Jan. 1615; and of Henry Bullock, only son of Henry Bullock, of Much Wigborough, ob. 24 Nov. 1628." There are also inscriptions on Henry Bullock; Robert Laurence of Moulsham; Richard Wiseman; and Anne, wife of Edward Marke; and John, father of sir Edward Bullock, of Faulkborne: also a Latin inscription on "Dionisia, wife of Thomas Page, who died 20 Mar.

Inscrip-
tions.

BOOK II. the church, which belongs to the lord of that manor: the name is supposed to have originated from salt-works, mentioned in records as having been in the neighbouring parish of Peldon, to which the sea-water might be conveyed from Pyefleet creek by this place, where, as the name seems to indicate, there might at that time be a "store-house." Though now a poor decayed village, this has probably been, as reported, the chief, or only town, in the parish. There is a fair here on the 24th of August.

Church. The church is a good lofty building, near the creek, opposite to Salcot Verli. It has a nave and chancel, of one pace, and is a much more considerable and handsomer building than the other church, to which it is a chapel. Formerly there was a chantry here, well endowed.

The population of this parish amounted to four hundred and ten in 1821, and had increased to four hundred and thirty-four in 1831.

LITTLE WIGBOROUGH.

Little Wigborough. This small parish is near the sea, and lies south-east from Great Wigborough. It is computed to contain seven hundred acres of land. The village is distant from Colchester six miles, and forty-six from London.*

Before the Conquest this parish belonged to Got, a freeman; and at the survey formed part of the extensive possessions of Hamo Dapifer, whose under-tenant was Vital. There is only one manor.

Copt Hall. Copt, or Cipt-hall, manor-house is near the east end of the church. This estate was conveyed by Mabel, daughter of Robert Fitz Hamo, to her husband, Robert, natural son of king Henry the first: he died in 1147, and this manor was holden under his descendants, successively earls of Gloucester, by Robert de Septem Vannis, or of Seven Fans; also written Senaunz and Senance. He died in 1253: Robert was his son and heir; whose heir was his nephew John, from whom it passed to some of the same family; and in 1364, William de Septvanz granted this manor to William de Boudon and his heirs; and in 1376, William, son and heir of sir William de Septvance, conveyed this estate, with the advowson of the church, to Walter de la Lee, and Robert de Tey, knts. In 1390 it belonged to John de Boys, and Thomas Bataile, who, in that year, presented to the living; and yet, in 1398, Robert Senance had all, or part, of this estate.

* The next possessor on record was Richard Buckland, esq., who died 1435, holding this manor, with the advowson of the church, of Richard, duke of York, as of his honour of Clare, by knight's service. The son of his daughter Agnes, Richard Wichingham, esq., was his heir; and after him, Agnes, wife of Nicholas Sharpe, esq., had this estate for life; from whom it descended to Thomas Cotton, esq., and to

* Average annual produce per acre: wheat twenty-four, barley thirty-six bushels.

Joanna his wife, daughter of the said Nicholas and Agnes. It afterwards belonged to the Cotton family, and was sold by sir John Cotton* to the governors of the Charter-house, London, who are the present owners of it. CHAP.
XX.

The church is a plain building, with a square tower. It is dedicated to St. Nicholas; Church.
situated near the hall, on the sea-shore.

There were only ninety-five inhabitants in this parish in 1821; increased to one hundred and twenty-three in 1831.

SALCOT VERLI.

This parish, on the borders of Thurstable hundred, is sometimes named Little Salcot, also written Salcot-Verley, and Vyrley, or Scalecot cum Verley. It is on the north side of the creek, by which it is separated from Salcot, Wigborough; is thinly inhabited, and contains about two thousand acres of low marshy land. Distant from Maldon seven miles, and from London forty-five. Salcot
Verli.

Before the conquest, a freeman had the lands of this parish, which, at the survey, belonged to Robert de Verli, who held them under Robert Gernon; but afterwards the Verlies became proprietors of this estate.†

The manor-house is near the church. Robert, the first recorded owner of this family, was the father of Robert, whose son and heir was sir Philip de Verli, whose son Robert married Margaret, daughter of sir Ralph Gernon, by Alianor his wife, daughter of Robert de Vere, earl of Oxford; his son and heir was Philip, whose sons were, John, who died without issue, and Roger. In 1314, Philip de Verli conveyed this estate to Walter de Patteshull, on whose decease, in 1330, he left Thomas, his son, his heir; and Walter, son of Thomas, was living in 1351.‡ Verli hall.

Sir John Lee, who died in 1370, held this estate under John de Vere, seventh earl of Oxford; and was succeeded by his son Walter, who died in 1395, and left three sisters his co-heiresses: Margery, wife of Robert Newport; Joan, wife of John Barlee; and Alice, wife of sir Thomas Morewell; and on partition of the estates,

* Thomas Cotton married, first, Margery, daughter of Philip Wentworth, by whom he had a daughter. By his second wife, Joanna, daughter of the above-mentioned Nicholas and Agnes, he had Robert, John, Leonard, a priest, William, and Etheldreda, wife of John Bassingbourn. At the time of his death, in 1490, he held this manor; in which he was succeeded by his son, sir Robert Cotton, of Landwood, in Cambridgeshire; who, dying in 1517, left, by Alice his wife, his son Thomas, who died in 1526, and was succeeded by his posthumous son, John, who died in 1593, leaving, by Isabel his wife, daughter of William Spencer, his son and heir, sir John Cotton, knt., of Landwood, who died in 1620; and he or his son sold this estate. Sir John Cotton, of Landwood, was created a baronet in 1641.

† By an inquisition on the death of Aveline, wife of Edmund, second son of king Henry the third, in 1275, it appears, that Robert de Verli held four knight's fees of the barony of Stansted, belonging to Gernon, viz.: Tolleshunt Darcy, Little Birche Saltecote, Copford, and Samantune; by the two last of which is meant part of Copford, and an estate here and in Peldon.

‡ Arms of Verli: Or, a bend gules, between six eagles sable.

BOOK II. this became the share of Margery, and her husband Robert Newport: he died in 1428, and his wife in 1467. Their son and heir, William Newport, on his decease in 1434, held this manor; and his descendants, who succeeded to it, were his son George, who died in 1484; and Robert, his son, followed by John Newport esq., in 1518, who, dying in 1524, left his only daughter, Grace, then only eight years old, contracted in marriage with Henry Parker, esq., son and heir of Henry lord Morley. He died in his father's life-time, in 1550, leaving Henry his eldest son and heir, who became lord Morley, on his grandfather's death in 1556, and held this manor at the time of his decease in 1577. Successors of this noble family were, Edward lord Morley, who died in 1618; William and Henry, lords Morley and Montegle; and the last of these sold the estate to Anthony Abdy, esq., who gave it to his third son, John, created a baronet in 1660, and styled of Moors in Salcot. Sir John, dying without issue, was succeeded in this possession by his heirs, seated at Albins. The Moor, or More, formerly a distinct manor, is now included in this estate, which belongs to J. R. II. Abdy, esq. of Claybury Hall.

Abbot's
Wic.

An estate, named Abbot's Wic, formerly belonging to the abbot of St. Asyth, is also now included in the capital manor.

Church.

The church is a very small building, dedicated to the Virgin Mary: in the west window there is, or was formerly, an ancient coat of arms: gules, a cross azure, charged with five leopards' faces, or.

In 1821 there were one hundred and thirty-eight inhabitants in this parish, and one hundred and fifty-four in 1831.

MERSEY.

Mersey.

The island of Mersey is a few miles below Colchester, at the junction of the rivers Colne and Blackwater, where they discharge themselves into the German ocean. It is parted from Winstree hundred by the channel, called Pyefleet, where the best flavoured oysters are produced. The Saxon *Mepe* and *ig*, Marsh, or ~~sea~~ island, is believed to have been the original name; which, in records, is written *Meres-ig*, *Mæres-ig*, *Meresai*, &c. The greatest length of the island, from north-east to south-west, is five miles; and its breadth about two miles. It is inaccessible from the land side, except by a causeway, called the Strode, which crosses the Pyefleet creek, and is covered by the sea at high water. The island is well wooded, and beautifully diversified with hill and dale; it has a bold commanding coast toward the German ocean, but on the north-west and south is low and flat, with a great extent of salt marshes.* The inhabitants are supplied with excellent water from various springs.

This island has unquestionably been occupied by the Romans, and from some

* The best land has a mixed soil, but very excellent, particularly across the middle of the island, from east to west. Average annual produce per acre: wheat twenty-eight, barley forty, bushels.

striking remains of the antiquities of that people, is believed to have been the residence or seat of some considerable Roman general, "Count of the Saxon shore." The situation was exceedingly convenient for preventing the piracies of the northern adventurers, either by the Colne, or Blackwater Bay. Several tumuli on the island are apparently Roman; an eminence on the road to Colchester has retained the name of Roman Hill, and numerous antiquities have been discovered. On repairing West Mersey hall, and making a new garden, in 1730, the workmen found a very fine tessellated pavement, which was inspected by Dr. Cromwell Mortimer, fellow of the College of Physicians, and secretary to the Royal Society, son of John Mortimer of Toppingo hall.*

* On the right of the gravel walk from the green to the hall door, about a foot deep, he found the south-east corner of the pavement; it was composed of variously coloured tesserae; the first series a white border, twenty-one inches wide, the tesserae three quarters of an inch square; succeeded by a narrow space of black, three inches wide, and within this a white space about the same width; these three seem to have run through the whole without interruption. Next to this there was a wreath or chain five inches and a half wide, of black, blue, and white, beautifully disposed in shades, which ran the whole length of the eastern side, and making a return at the south-east angle, was interwoven with another short wreath of red, yellow, and white, disposed in shades, and separated by a narrow space of white, except where they crossed each other. Just beyond the red wreath, on the south side, there was a white square bordered with black, with a large rose of four leaves in the middle of it, shaded with red, yellow, and white; a narrow white space ran within this square, in the directions of east and west, close to which there was a black, blue, and white wreath, like that on the east side, and within that another white space, an inch and three quarters wide, which seemed to extend round the whole work. Two parallel spaces of a sort of fret-work commenced at the south-east angle of this white space; these were five inches wide, and nearly five feet long, running south and north, joined at the north end by a return of the frets. These frets alternately shaded with black, blue, and white; or red, yellow, and white; inclosing a white space four feet and a half long, and nine inches wide, containing a wreath of six ivy leaves; the stalk and edges of the leaves blue, the middle alternately shaded; one with black, blue, and white; the other with red, yellow, and white. At the north end of this fret-work there was a square white space, which seemed to be the middle of the east side. Another white space, an inch and three-quarters wide, extended the whole length of this fret-work, from south to north. Next to this was a wreath of red, yellow, and white, five inches wide, of the same length; and, joining to it, another white space, two inches and a half wide; followed by a narrow black space, one inch wide, extending round the larger central square. South and east of this square there were rows of diamonds, or lozenges, bordered with white wreaths crossing each of them at right angles, alternately composed of black, blue, and white, and of red, yellow, and white, disposed in shades; the intermediate triangular spaces being divided, three smaller triangular spaces in the centre white, the others blue. Encompassed by these lozenges and triangles, there was a small square, two feet on each side, surrounded by a narrow black space, within which there was a wreath of red, yellow, and white, in shades, five inches wide, enclosing a small white square, bordered with double lines of black and white, surrounding a roseaceous flower, like the lotus, consisting of four large leaves lying uppermost, red, yellow, and white; and the points of four others lying underneath, appearing between in another small square. Hence the doctor concluded there were three of these lesser squares on the east side of the churchyard pales; and on digging a hole about four feet deep, exactly ranging with the other lesser square, and west of it, he found another, exactly like it. From these circumstances he concluded that the whole pavement was of an oblong rectangular form, extending twenty-one feet and a half from north to south, and eighteen and a half from east to west.

The

BOOK II.

During the invasions of the Danes, this was frequently the landing place and retreat of their ferocious bands; and the great Alfred is recorded to have besieged a large party of them here some time in the year 894, having pursued them in their flight from Farnham. The year following, several bodies of them, after having made incursions into various parts, took refuge here; and, on their departure, sailed up the Thames, and towed their ships up the river Lee as far as Hertford.* There was formerly a block-house, or small fortification, on the south-east corner of the island, to defend the passage of the river Colne; it was seized by the parliamentarians during the siege of Colchester in 1648; what remains of it is named the Block-house-stone. During the wars with the Dutch, a camp was kept here to prevent their landing.

This island is divided into two parishes, named, from their respective situations, West Mersey and East Mersey.

WEST MERSEY.

West
Mersey.

This larger of the two parishes is twelve miles from Maldon, and forty-nine from London. It has a fair on Whit Tuesday. There are five manors.

West
Mersey
hall.

The mansion of the chief manor is near the church: this lordship was given to the priory of St. Ouen, at Rouen, in Normandy, by Edward the Confessor, in the year 1046;† and it had possession of it at the time of the survey. On this estate a priory was founded by Roger Fitz-Ranulph, near the east end of the church, and dedicated to St. Helen, or St. Peter. It was of the Benedictine order, and a cell to the foreign priory, which held it with the manor and half hundred of Winstree, as of the gift of Edward king of England.‡

The minister and sexton informed the doctor that there was a pavement under the whole churchyard at the same depth, and that the coffins had been usually placed upon it. In the chancel they found a pavement of red tesserae, an inch and half square, and forming the rays of large stars: west of the church they were composed of small tiles, two or three inches square: two large brass coins were also found here. Dr. Mortimer, revisiting this place in 1740, saw a grave dug in the churchyard, eastward of the church, and due south of the south-west corner of the grand pavement, where he found part of a pavement composed entirely of red tesserae, an inch and half square. From the diversity of these pavements, contiguous to each other, and extending near one hundred feet from east to west, and about fifty from north to south, they are believed to be, not the mere substratum of a general's tent, but rather belonged to the villa of some Roman prætor, who was invited by the delightfulness of the situation to make this his summer abode; like that at Weldon, in Northamptonshire, discovered in 1738, on the estate of lord Hatton.

Other antiquities have been found in the island; among these were buckles, hasps, and styli; a brass ring, five inches in diameter, pierced with small holes, supposed to have been the rim of a fundator's or slinger's bag, together with numerous pateræ, some of which are preserved in the British Museum.

* Saxon Chronicle, pp. 93—96.

† The grant, found among the archives of Colchester, was signed by the king, and confirmed and signed by nineteen of his archbishops and bishops, abbots, officers, and great men.

‡ The donation of king Edward was confirmed by William the Conqueror, and by king Henry the second. Among the singular privileges granted to this house, it held its estates in pure and perpetual

On the suppression of priories alien, their revenues were given by the parliament to king Henry the fifth in 1414, and he in 1422 granted this priory, and the manor of Mersey, to Henry Chicheley, archbishop of Canterbury, who settled it on the collegiate church, founded by him at Higham Ferrers, in Northamptonshire, his native town. On the dissolution of monasteries, this estate, coming to the crown, was granted by king Henry the eighth, in 1542, to Robert Dacres, one of his heirs. He died in 1543, and left his son George under age; and in 1553 the estate was granted by Edward the sixth to Thomas lord Darcy, of St. Osyth; and it passed from him, with the manor of Fingringhoe, and other estates, to John lord Darcy, and to Thomas lord Darcy, created viscount Colchester in 1621, and in 1626, earl Rivers. Dying, in 1639, without surviving male issue, Elizabeth, countess Rivers, widow of sir Thomas Savage, knt. and bart., was his eldest daughter and co-heiress; and making her his executrix, she sold this estate in 1649 to John Kidby, M. A., rector of Shenfield. It now belongs to Mr. Thomas May.

The manor of Peete extends beyond Pyefleet, on part of the continent; and some of its lands lie in Peldon. The manor-house is near Peete bridge, a mile and a half north from the island. The causeway from Peete bridge, by Peete Tye, crosses Abberton green, over Manwood bridge, by the side of Blackheath, and enters Colchester near St. John's abbey. This estate is mentioned by name in Edward the Confessor's grant to St. Ouen's priory, and was granted to Robert Dacres, esq.; then to lord Darcy; afterwards sold to George Frere, who bequeathed it to his nephew, John Goddard; whose grandson left it for the payment of his debts, and gave the remainder to Thomas Boyles, of Colchester, who sold it to Jacob Brown in 1728.

Peete
manor.

The mansion is a mile and half north-east from the church; this estate belonged to St. Ouen's priory, and to the college of Higham Ferrers; passing at the dissolution to the crown, it was granted by Philip and Mary to sir Thomas White; and afterwards, by queen Elizabeth, granted or sold to John Spencer, alderman of London, whose daughter was married to lord Compton, afterwards earl of Northampton; and their son sold it to Ralph Fox; whose descendants were, Daniel; James, who died in 1710; and John Fox, whose widow was married to Marcellus Osborne, esq.

Bower
hall.

Bocking hall is two miles east-north-east from the church. Ætheric and Leopmine, two noble Saxons, had this estate; and, in 1006, gave it to the church and priory of St. Saviour's in Canterbury, with the lordship of Bocking, for the maintenance of the monks. At the survey it belonged to that priory; and, in 1539, its revenues were surrendered to the crown, and by king Henry the eighth made to form part of the endowment of the dean and canons of the cathedral of Canterbury; but, in 1545, they assigned it with other estates to the king, in discharge of two hundred pounds they

Bocking
hall.

alms, without any service; and, on the death of a prior, the demesnes were not to be seized into the king's hands by way of custody of the temporalities. See Monast. Angl. vol. i. p. 552.

BOOK II. were obliged to pay for the maintenance of scholars at Oxford and Cambridge. It continuing in the crown till 1599, it was granted to John Spencer, esq. by queen Elizabeth, and he held it with Bowrehall and Brookhall: he died in 1609; and his daughter, married to the earl of Northampton, had this estate. John Convers became afterwards the owner of it; and it was made to form part of the endowment of the hospital founded at Colchester by Arthur Winsley, esq.

Church. The church, on the south-west corner of the island, is dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul. It has a nave, south aisle, and chancel; with a tower and five bells.*

This church went with the manor to St. Ouen's priory, the great tithes being appropriated to their cell here; they presented to the vicarage till their suppression. Afterwards, from 1435 to 1525, the fellows of Higham Ferrers college presented, and it afterwards passed to the Darcy family.†

The amount of the population of this parish in 1821 was seven hundred and seventy-two, and eight hundred and forty-seven in 1831.

EAST MERSEY.

East Mersey.

The eastern division of Mersey island is occupied by this parish, which, in Edward the Confessor's reign, belonged to Robert, son of Wimarce; and to Suene, his son, at the time of the survey. The village and the church are near the coast: distant from Colchester eight, and from London fifty, miles.

Mersey hall.

In 1210 and 1211 Richard de Rivers held East Mersey of the honour of Hagenet, it being let to him by the king, and worth fifteen pounds a year.‡ He is supposed to have had this estate by marriage with Maud de Lucy; but this is not certainly known. William de Rivers had it at the time of his decease in 1276: John, his son and heir, followed him; and dying, in 1278, left his son William under age, and in wardship to Giles de Penes. Sir Richard de Rivers had this estate in 1325; and at the time of his decease, in 1332, is styled lord of Est Mersey, and husband of Alice de Lukenbroc. He left Robert his son his heir.

Inscriptions.

* Mr. Symonds has preserved inscriptions, of which the following are translations.

On a stone in the chancel:—"Here lieth Mr. Richard Wilcock, formerly vicar of this church, who died 2 July, 1468." In the south aisle:—"Here lieth Stephen Smyth, and Elizabeth his wife, which Stephen died 8 Jan. 1495."

The Strode.

† A beach, or causeway, named the Strode, or Stroud, affords a passage into the island at low water every eight hours. An estate in the parish, of about thirty acres, called Stroud lands and Church fields, has been given for the Strode and church, and is held of the manor of West Mersey hall, by feoffees for that purpose: the money is all put into one bag; whether disposed of according to the will of the donor is uncertain. Formerly there was a strove-keeper; and in the time of Henry the eighth a building, named a church-house, which has been pulled down.

‡ Est Meresheye est eschacla Domini Regis de Feodo Henrici de Essex & Richardus de Ripariis illam terram tenet de ballio Domini Regis et valet, p. an. xvi.

The estate afterwards passed to the families of Swinborne, Finderne, Wentworth, Bellamie, and Creffield. Sir Ralph Creffield, knt., of Colchester, purchased this estate, and, dying in 1732, was succeeded by his grandson, Peter Creffield, esq., who died in 1748; and Thamar, his only daughter and heiress, conveyed it by marriage to James Round, esq. son of William Round, esq. of Birch hall. It now belongs to George Round, esq.

This estate appears to have been named from the Rivers family, to whom it formerly belonged. The manor-house is a mile north from the church. In 1368, William, son and heir of Hugh Groos, held a moiety of this estate; and it was afterwards settled in trustees by his brother, sir John de Groos, for the maintenance of a chantry priest in the new chapel of Bentley church. This moiety was ultimately vested in the abbey of St. Osyth, which was to keep the obit of the donor, and pay the chantry money. The other moiety was afterwards conveyed to the same house by Alice, wife of Thomas Sheppy, and daughter and heiress of Walter de Wotton. On the dissolution of monasteries, sir Thomas Audeley, lord chancellor, had a grant of this estate, which, on his death, in 1544, he gave to his brother, Thomas Audeley, esq. of Bere Church, who died in 1572, and was succeeded by Robert, his son and heir; followed by sir Henry Audeley, knt.; by Thomas and by Henry Audeley, esquires, from whom this and many other of his estates were conveyed to James Smyth, esq. It now belongs to George Round, esq.

Renshall.

Rusalls is another estate, or capital farm, in the southern part of this parish, which belonged to sir William Capel, who died in 1515: sir Giles Capel was his son and heir. In 1558 it was granted by queen Mary and king Philip to sir Thomas White. In 1609 sir John Spencer died in possession of it, leaving his daughter, Elizabeth, who was married to William, lord Compton. This estate now belongs to George Round, esq.

Rusalls.

The church, which is dedicated to St. Edmund, has a nave and north aisle, with a chancel, in the north aisle of which there is a chapel. The tower is square, of stone, and formerly there was a beacon. There used to be five bells; now only two.*

Church.

This rectory was given by Robert, son of Suene, to the priory of Prittlewell, founded by him; and it continued in the gift of the prior and monks till their suppression. On the general dissolution of religious houses it passed to the crown; where it has remained to the present time.

The parsonage is a manor, and keeps a court leet and court baron.

In 1821 the population of this parish amounted to two hundred and eighty-two, and to three hundred in 1831.

* A grave-stone of black marble, in the chancel, is inscribed to the memory of "Mawdlyn Owtrred, ob. 1572." In the north aisle:—"Here lies the body of James Fox, gent. ob. 18 May, 1716."

Inscriptions.

BOOK II.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN THE HUNDRED OF WINSTREE.

R. Rectory.	V. Vicarage.	P.C. Perpetual Curacy.	† Discharged from payment of first-fruits.		
Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Abberton, R.	Colchester.	— Holroyd	1830	14 7 8½	Lord Chancellor.
Fingrinho, V.		Robert Firmin	1826	†13 7 0	Peter Firmin, esq.
Langenhoe, R.		John Deedes	1809	14 13 4	Earl Waldegrave.
Láyer Breton, R.		J. F. Benwell	1819	7 0 0	— Sutton, esq.
Láyer de la Hay, P.C.		Edward Crosse	1826	C.V. 12 0 0	John Bawtree, esq.
Láyer Marney, R. ..		Alfred Utterson	1828	15 3 4	Mat. Corsellis, esq.
Mersey, East, R.		J. B. Stanc	1806	21 0 0	The King.
Mersey, West, V.		Nathaniel Forster ..	1797	†22 0 0	Mrs. Simpson.
Peldon, R.		John Palmer	1817	16 15 10	Earl Waldegrave.
Salcot Verli, R.		Henry Bull	1824	† 7 13 4	{ Abdy and Ann
Wighborough, Gt. R.		Edward Petre	1789	18 17 6	{ Frances, alternately.
Wighborough, Lit. R.		Richard Pain	1820	†10 0 0	Hen. Bewes, esq. Gov. of Charter-house

CHAPTER XXI.

HUNDRED OF TENDRING.

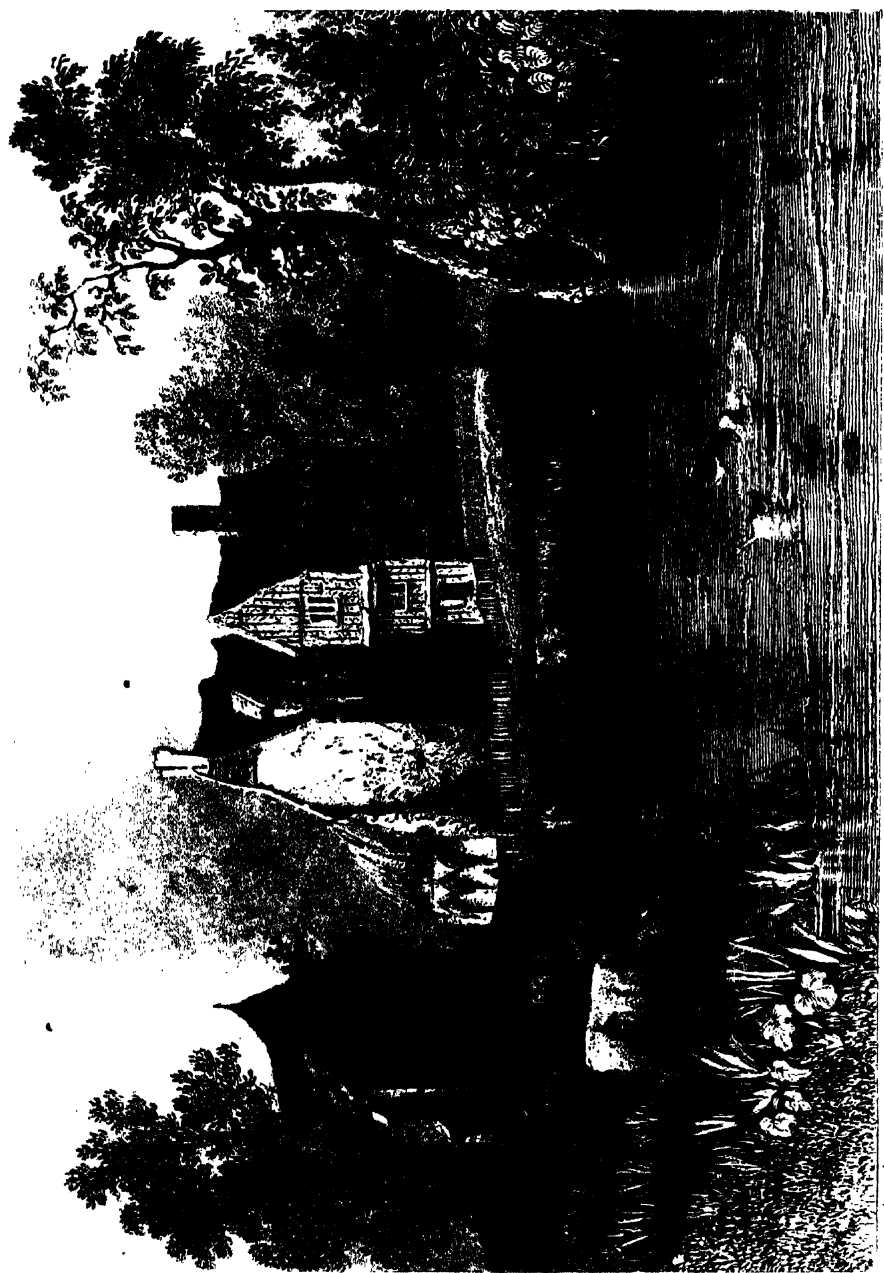
CHAP
XXI

Tendring

THIS hundred is a peninsula; on the south and east bounded by the sea; on the north by the river Stour, which separates it from Suffolk; and on the south-west by the Colchester channel and the hundred of Lexden. Its form is nearly circular; fifteen miles from east to west, and about thirteen from north to south. It was disafforested by king Stephen; and the courts, having been originally holden in Tendring, a parish near its centre, it has from that circumstance received its name.

About a century ago a considerable portion of this hundred was covered with brushwood, and full of foul swampy ground; but extensive improvements have been made in every part of it since that time.

A stewardship and bailiwick belong to it, of which the proprietor of Colchester castle has the nomination. A court baron is kept at Manningtree every three weeks, for complaints of debt, &c.; and a court leet, and view of frank-pledge, once a year, within twelve days after the nativity of Christ, for the parishes of Tendring, Ardley, Lawford, Mistley, Little Bromley, Beaumont, and Alresford. The waste grounds, and woods thereupon growing, within the precincts of the view of frank-pledge,



belong to the lord of the hundred; and the court punishes offenders guilty of felling wood and encroaching on the wastes, or other similar offences. Waifs and strays in the aforesaid parishes, and various others within the hundred, belong also to the lord,* and he has an acre and more of land in Tendring, called the Bailiff's Acre.

The following persons are recorded to have received the grant of this hundred with the castle of Colchester: Stephen Harengood, in 1214; Guy de Rochford, in 1256; John de Burgh, in 1273; Richard de Holebrook, in 1275; sir Robert de Benhall, in 1364; Henry, duke of Lancaster, in 1404; Margaret, queen of king Henry the sixth, in 1446; sir John Howard, in 1461; Thomas Kendale, in 1485; John de Vere, earl of Oxford, in 1496; sir Thomas Darcy, in 1541; Anthony Kempe, esq., in 1553; Henry Mac William, esq. in 1558; sir John Stanhope, in 1599. In 1629, James Hay, earl of Carlisle, obtained the reversion of it to him and his heirs for ever. In 1636, he released it to Archibald Hay, who conveyed it to sir John Lenthall, who, in 1656, disposed of it to James Northfolk, esq.; and from him it passed to his son, Robert Northfolk, and to Martha, his sister, married to Hope Gifford, esq.

After the death of Mrs. Gifford, this hundred was conveyed to the rev. Francis Powell, who sold it to Mr. Henry Briggs, of whom it was purchased by Charles Gray, esq. in 1750: from which time it has been re-annexed to Colchester castle, from which it had been a considerable time separated. It now belongs to George Round, esq.

This hundred does not render account into the exchequer; and though the sheriff of Essex useth to execute process and writs therein, he cannot constitute the bailiff.† Tendring contains thirty-one parishes, of which the following are the names: Ardleigh, Lawford, Little Bromley, Great Bromley, Elmsted, Little Bentley, Great Bentley, Frating, Thorington, Alresford, Brightlingsea, St. Osyth, Mistleay with Manningtree, Bradfield, Wix, Tendring, Wiley, Little Clacton, Great Clacton, Little Holland, Great Holland, Frinton, Thorpe, Kirby, Walton, Beaumont with Moss, Great Oakley, Little Oakley, Wrabness, Ramsey, Dover Court with Harwich.

ARDLEIGH, OR ARDLEY.

This parish, in the north-west corner of the hundred, is thirty-eight miles in circumference. The road from Colchester to Harwich passes through it: distant from Colchester five, and from London fifty-six miles. It has a fair on the twenty-ninth of September.‡

Ardleigh.

* It has likewise a common fine belonging to it, with ordinary profits to the steward and bailiff.

† Inquisition taken at Colchester, 12 April, 1637, before sir Benjamin Ayloffe, bart., sir John Tunstall, knt., Henry Neville, and John Sayer, esqs., by virtue of a commission under the seal of the Court of Exchequer.

‡ Part of the land lies low; the soil, a sandy loam on gravel; average annual produce per acre, wheat twenty-six, barley thirty-two bushels.

The name is written in records Aerlege, Ardlee, Ardelegh, Ardeleye, Erdelega, Erelea, Hardley.*

In Edward the Confessor's reign these lands were in the possession of six freemen; and, at the time of the survey, belonged to Roger de Ramis, Hugh de Gurnai, Robert Gernon, and Geoffrey de Magnville. There are four manors.

* Picotts

Picotts has the manor-house near the west end of the church, and the estate consists of the lands which were in the possession of Roger de Ramis; whose son, Roger, had succeeded to the possession of them in the reign of king Stephen; and they were holden under this family, by Ralph Picott, in 1194 and 1210; his son, sir William, was living in 1226, and held lauds here by the service of keeping one hawking horse. His son, sir William, held the same in 1283; whose son, sir Ralph Picott, sold this manor in 1329 to William de Tey; it being holden of the king, as of the barony of Reynes, by the service of half a knight's fee. In 1350, Richard de Sutton, and Anne his wife, held this manor by the sergeanty of keeping one sparrow-hawk at the king's charge; and, in 1400, it was conveyed from their son, Robert Tey, to John Bohun and others. Yet it afterwards returned to the Tey's, and was in the possession of Robert Tey in 1426, passing successively to various individuals of this family. Sir Thomas Tey, knt. on his death, in 1540, left four daughters, co-heiresses: Margaret, married to Sir John Jermeye, of Brightwell, in Suffolk; Elizabeth, married to sir Marmaduke Nevill, third son of Richard Nevill, lord Latimer; Mary, who was married to sir Thomas Nevill, brother of sir Marmaduke; and Frances, married, first to William Bonham, next to Edward Bocking, and last to Thomas Bonham. On partition of the Tey estates, this became the property of Thomas Nevill.

William Cardinal, esq. of Great Bromley, had this estate in 1540; he was of the same surname, was his successor. Afterwards, it was the property of John Strutt, of Hadley, in Suffolk, and of Mrs. Dawson, of Groton, who conveyed it to Edward Reeve, esq.

Bovill

Bovills, and Bradvills, is a manor which has received these names from the time of Henry the second; it consists of the lands held by Richard de Bovill, one of whose successors it was forfeited to the crown. The manor is situated half a mile south by west from the church. Richard de Bovill, who lived here in 1189, was a person of eminence, and a benefactor to St. Botolph's and St. Osyth's abbeys, as was also William de Bovill, his successor. This manor was holden of the honour of Clare, and passed, as that of Picotts, to the Tey family; on partition of whose estates, it became the property of Thomas Bonham, esq. in right of his wife Frances; who sold it, in 1575, to John Southwell. It afterwards had a variety of

* From the British words, high, and le, untilled land. Dr. Stukeley's Itiner. Curios. p. 76.

owners: and, in 1665, was purchased by Henry Lamb, of Colchester; and now belongs to sir W. Sandford Lamb.

CHAP.
XXI.

The manor-house of Mose, or Moose hall, is nearly two miles south-west from the church, on the right hand side of the road from Colchester to Ardleigh. At the time of the survey it belonged to Robert Gernon, whose successors, seated at Stansted Montfichet, were William, Gilbert, and two successively named Richard; when, in 1258, on failure of male heirs, the noble inheritance of the family was divided among three co-heiresses. Margery, married to Hugh de Bolebec; Aveline, wife of William de Fortz, earl of Albemarle; and Philippa, wife of Hugh de Playz. This manor became the share of Aveline, whose husband, the earl, on his death in 1241, left a son and heir, William, whose youngest daughter, and only surviving child, was married, in 1269, to Edmund Crouchback, earl of Lancaster, second son of king Henry the third. She died without issue in 1292; and her husband, in her right, held fourteen knights' fees, as of the inheritance of Richard de Montfichet; and Richard de Pevelin held under him four knights' fees, part of which lay in Ardleigh and Braham. In 1426, the manor of Mose hall had become the property of Robert Tey, in whose family it remained till the year 1507, when it was in the possession of Peter Tenant, and afterwards passed to William Theedam, who sold it to John Wall, from whom it descended to his son, Daniel Wall, vicar of Bromfield, and was sold, by his son, Sherman Wall, to Ralph Creffield, esq., who died in 1723; and whose widow was married to Charles Gray, esq., who, in her right, enjoyed the estate during his life. A brick house, about half a mile north from the church, was formerly a seat of this family; Mose hall now belongs to — Affleck.

MoseHall.

Martell's hall, called also Martin's hall, is a manor-house about three-quarters of a mile south from the church. Geoffrey de Magnaville had this manor at the time of the survey, and it was soon after held under him by a family named Martell, who also held Martell's, in Rottenhall. William, son of Geoffrey Martell, by his wife Albreda, founded Bungay priory, Suffolk, in 1155, which he gave as a cell to St. John's abbey, in Colchester; and Ralph Martell also gave lands here to the priory of St. Botolph.* A succession of the heirs of this family retained this manor till the year 1424, when, on the death of Thomas Martell, it passed to his heir, Elias Doreward, son of Walter, and grandson of Elias Doreward, by Anne, daughter of John, son of Benedict de Cokefield.† His only surviving child, by Joan, his wife, was Elizabeth, who became his heiress. She left, on her death in 1452, her eldest son and heir, Robert Mortimer, whose only daughter, Elizabeth, succeeded to his estates, and was married to George Gifford, from whom, in 1528, the manor of Martells was con-

Martell's
Hall.

* Monastic Angl. vol. ii. p. 894.

† She was sister of Alice, wife of John Martell. Arms of Martell: gules, three hammers, handles argent, headed, or, 2, and 1.

BOOK II. veyed to William Mannock, esq. of Gifford's hall, in Suffolk; on whose death, in 1558, he was succeeded by his son, Francis Mannock, esq. whose heir, in 1590, was his son William, who, dying in 1617, sir Francis, his son, created a baronet in 1627, succeeded; he died in 1634, and his son, the second sir Francis, was his heir, whose youngest son, Thomas Mannock, esq. of Great Bromley hall, succeeded; on whose death, without surviving offspring, his estates descended to his nephew, sir Francis Mannock, bart. of Gifford's hall; on whose death, in 1758, he was succeeded by his eldest son, sir William Mannock, of Great Bromley. It now belongs to Alexander Baring, esq.

Badley. Badley, or Bedley hall, is an estate in this parish which has been called a manor: the house is about a mile distant from the road from Colchester to Manningtree. William Gilbert, of Colchester, held this estate at the time of his death, in 1603; whose heir was William Harris, his sister's son. Afterwards, it passed to captain Philips, of Harwich; and to Mr. Edward Lugar.

Baldwin Filioll, in the reign of king Henry the third, held lands here, by the sergeanty of keeping one mise.* Richard Filioll held the same, in 1259, of Robert Fitzwalter: John was his son and heir.

Abels and Knatchbulls are names of an estate here; and also Ardleey Wic, which is about a mile and a half west from the church.

Church. The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, has a nave and south aisle, with a chancel, which has been, some time ago, rebuilt with brick, and is much less than the former erection: the aisle is leaded, and the rest of the church tiled. There is a stone tower, embattled, containing six bells; and the south porch is large, and handsomely built of a mixture of flints and stone; on the front it bears the following inscription in old Saxon characters: "Orate pro animabus Johis Hunte, et Alicie; uxoris ejus, Johis Hunte, Willimus Hunte." In English: "Pray for the souls of John Hunte, and his wife Alice; of John Hunte, and William Hunte."

Robert, son of Roger de Ramis, in the reign of king Stephen, gave this church to St. John's abbey, in Colchester: and, in 1237, the abbot and convent gave the advowson to the church of St. Paul's, and the bishop of London and his successors, reserving to the abbey, and to the vicar of this place, thirteen marks yearly; soon after, the advowson being reserved to the abbot and convent, with ten marks yearly to the vicar, and a pension of three marks to the abbey, the rectorial tithes were appropriated to the archdeacon of Colchester,† and so have remained to the present

* Mise is a law term, from the French, sometimes used to signify a tax or tallage: also an honorary gift. Sometimes it is used instead of mease, mees, or messuage. A mise place, in some manors, is as a surety for a heriot to the lord, on the tenant's death.

† These grants, or charters, are given in Newcourt, vol. ii. pp. 10, 11.

time. The advowson, passing to the crown at the reformation, belongs to it at present. CHAP.
XXI.

This parish, in 1821, contained one thousand three hundred and eighty-seven; and one thousand five hundred and forty-five, in 1831.

LAWFORD.

The parish of Lawford is bounded on the north-east by Ardley, and by the river Stour northwards: its circumference is about eight miles. It is seven miles north-east from Colchester, and fifty-seven from London.* Lawford.

In records the name is written Lagford, Lalleford, Halleford, Halford. The greater part of this parish belonged to king Harold before the Conquest, and the remainder was occupied by a freeman named Aluric. At the time of the survey it belonged to Eustace, earl of Boulogne, whose under tenant was named Adelf. There are three capital and two smaller manors.

The manor of Lawford consists of what belonged to king Harold, and contains the best part of the parish. The manor-house is a large and handsome building not far from the church. The original and more ancient erection was by Edward Waldegrave, esq. in 1583, but much of it has been pulled down and modernized, and greatly improved, by Edward Green, esq. about seventy years ago. The situation is pleasant, and the prospect, northward, extensive and interesting. Lawford
Hall.

Peter de Leyham is mentioned in records as holding lands here in 1269; and the manor is said to have been held under Gilbert de Lay by Benedict de Cokefield, who died in 1341; Edmund de Cokefield was his son. Anne, daughter of John, son of Benedict de Cokefield, was married to Elias Doreward, the son of Walter, and he had this estate in 1424. Sir John Say died in 1478, holding this manor, with the advowson of the church, of Elizabeth, queen of England, as of her castle of Frome, and other estates of Henry Bourchier, earl of Essex. Afterwards it was conveyed to William Blount, lord Mountjoy, in marriage with Elizabeth, daughter of sir William Say, *knt.* He had by her a daughter named Margaret, married to Henry Courtney, *marquis* of Exeter; but both he and his lady being attainted for corresponding with cardinal Pole, in 1538, this and their other estates became forfeited to the crown.† Thomas lord Darcy held this estate at the time of his decease in 1558; as did also his son John in 1580; and in 1584 it was in the possession of Edward Waldegrave, esq. of Smallbridge, in Suffolk, who died in 1584, and his son Edward was his successor. His first wife was Elizabeth, daughter of Bartholomew Averill, of Southminster, by whom he had one daughter, named Anne; and by his second wife,

* The soil, chiefly a sandy loam, or loam on gravel. Average annual produce per acre, wheat twenty-two, barley thirty-six, oats thirty-six bushels.

† Sir Henry Chauncy's Hist. of Hertfordshire, pp. 336, 342; and Dugdale's Baron. vol. i. p. 622.

BOOK II. Sarah, daughter of John Higham, of Suffolk, and widow of sir Richard Bingham, he had also a daughter, named Jemima. He held this manor at the time of his decease, in 1621, of the king *in capite*. Anne, his eldest daughter, was married to Drue Drury, esq.; and Jemima to John lord Crew, of Stene, having for her purparty the manors of Lawford and Dale hall. They had four sons; Thomas, John, Nathaniel, Waldegrave: and two daughters; Jemima, married to Edward Montague, earl of Sandwich; and Anne, to sir Henry Wright, of Dagenham, knt. and bart. Thomas lord Crew had by his first lady, Mary, daughter of sir George Townshend, of Raynham, bart. John, who died young; and two daughters, Anne and Temperance. His second lady was Anne, widow of sir Thomas Wilberhall, and daughter and co-heiress of sir William Armine, bart. of Osgod in Lincolnshire. By her he had Jemima, married to Henry de Grey, duke of Kent; Airmine, to Thomas Cartwright, esq., of Ayno, in Northamptonshire; Catharine, to sir John Harpur, bart., of Calke, in Derbyshire; and Elizabeth, to Charles Butler, earl of Arran, lord Butler of Weston, and brother to James, duke of Ormond. Lord Thomas Crew, dying without surviving male offspring, was succeeded by his next surviving brother, the right hon. and rev. Nathaniel lord Crew, consecrated bishop of Oxford in 1671, and raised to the see of Durham in 1674. He sold this manor and estate to Thomas Dent, D.D., prebendary of Westminster; who, dying in 1722, left, by Alice, his wife, Charles and William, and four daughters. Charles Dent, esq., the eldest son, and heir apparent, died before his father,* in 1718, leaving by his wife, Mary Southwell, an only daughter, named Catharine, married to Edward Green, esq., of Staffordshire; whose descendant, the rev. E. H. Green, is the present owner of this estate.

Dale Hall. Dale-hall manor consists of the lands which anciently belonged to Aluric, and to Eustace, earl of Boulogne. The mansion is about half a mile eastward from the church. The family of Dale were in possession of this estate in 1416: in which year Sibilla, the widow of sir Thomas Dale, was succeeded by her grandson, Thomas. It belonged afterwards to John Dale, who died in 1479; and to Thomas lord Darcy, from whom it passed to his son, lord John, who died in 1580. In 1590, it was granted to Peter Wilcox and William Wynn; from whom it passed to the Waldegrave family, descending, with the last-mentioned estate, to lord Crew. It was afterwards the property of Mrs. Burton, of Manningtree.

Abbots. Abbots, formerly called a manor, was part of the possessions of St. John's abbey, Colchester. The mansion is on the south side of the church. It was granted to John de Vere, earl of Oxford, at the time of the dissolution of abbey; and, being

* Arms of Dent, argent, on a bend azure, three lozenges, ermine. Crest, on a closed helmet, and a torse argent, and azure a wivern's head, ermine.

afterwards divided into smaller estates, was part of it purchased by Edward Green, esq., and belongs to the rev. Edward Henry Green.

CHAP.
XXI.

Feytes or Shaws, formerly called a manor, is an estate which extends into Dedham and Ardley. It receives quit-rents, and yet pays an acknowledgment to Lawford hall. It passed from the Lufkin family to Mr. John Richardson, of Colchester.

The church, dedicated to St. Mary, is on high ground, with an extensive and pleasant prospect, particularly northward. It has a nave and chancel, and the walls of the interior are curiously ornamented with elaborate stone carvings: the tower is of stone. Church.

There is a house near the church-gate, which is a charitable donation, by Mr. Pecksale; it is for the use of the sexton for the time being for ever, provided he keeps it in repair, and pays eight shillings yearly to Lawford hall.

The rectory formerly belonging to the manor, was purchased of Mr. Dent, by St. John's college, Cambridge.

In 1821, this parish contained six hundred and eighty-eight inhabitants, and seven hundred and ninety-four in 1831.

LITTLE BROMLEY.

This parish lies between Lawford on the north, and Great Bromley on the south; the name is written in records, Brumleia, and Brumbelia, supposed from Bpomi, broom, and Ley, pasture ground. It is six miles in circumference, eight miles from Colchester, and fifty-nine from London. Little Bromley.

Queen Editha possessed these lands in the time of the confessor; and, at the Domesday survey, they had become the property of Walter the deacon, and Richard Fitz-Gilbert. There are two manors.

The manor of Little Bromley,* or Church hall, is near the church, the estate is what belonged to Walter; whose two sons were named, Walter Mascherel, and Alexander. He had also a daughter, named Editha. The noble family of this ancient manor, were barons of Hastings, of whom, Robert de Hastings lived in the reign of king Henry the second; and Little Easton was the head of his barony in this county, which, by marriage of his daughter, was conveyed to the Loveyns. Under Matthew de Loveyn, who died in 1302, Robert de Godmanston held four knights' fees in Bromley and in Godmanston; John, his son, was his successor, in 1347; Walter de Godmanston was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1381, and had possessions here; as had also his son William, from 1395 to 1408. John Godmanston, Church Hall.

* Formerly this estate was very considerable, containing about three hundred acres of demesne lands, and six hundred acres holden by copy of court-roll.

BOOK II.

the son of William, who held this inheritance in 1432, was returned as one of the gentry of Essex in 1433, and was sheriff in 1452. His son William became his heir in 1464, and, being a retainer to John de Vere, the thirteenth earl of Oxford, lost his life at the battle of Barnet, in 1471, fighting for king Henry the sixth; and, with the earl, and sir George, and sir Thomas de Vere, of Wivenhoe, was attainted of treason by act of parliament, in 1472. He held this manor, and other possessions, of Henry, earl of Essex, and when that nobleman's estates and honours were restored, by the parliament that met in 1485, so were also those of de Godmanston.* Joan, his widow, remarried to Gilbert Hussey, held this estate in dower till her decease; after which, in 1498, it descended to her first husband's sister, Philippa; who, by her husband, Henry Warner, had Christiana, first married to William Brown, esq., in 1503; and to her second husband, Humphrey Dymock, in 1536.

Sir Ralph Chamberlain was the next possessor of this estate, whose heir left a daughter, named Mary, married to Henry Cockain: and had by him Dorothy, married to William Pirton, esq., of Little Bentley; and they sold this estate to Paul Bayning, in 1593; but, in 1598, he conveyed it to them again, and they sold it to sir Francis de Vere, a general of distinguished bravery in the wars of the low countries. On his death, without surviving offspring, in 1608, his next brother, John de Vere, esq., of Kirby hall, was his successor; on whose death, in 1624, he left his brother Horace lord Vere, baron of Tilbury, his heir; who, in 1635, left five daughters coheirresses, of whom, Catharine was married to John lord Paulet, and had this estate for her purparty. Afterwards, in 1675, it was sold to Mr. John Warner, clothier, of Sudbury; who bequeathed it to his daughter, Eleanor, married to the rev. Richard Allington Harrison, rector of West Wickham, in Cambridgeshire. Their only daughter, Mary, was married to Mr. Thomas Newman, several times mayor of Sudbury: she being his third wife. He bought this estate of his father-in-law, in 1714, and left an only son, the rev. John Newman. The present owner is the rev. Thomas Newman.

Braham
Hall.

Braham hall is also called Breame hall; and, as distinguished by its situation, it has been named Nether hall. This estate formerly paid a sparrow-hawk to the manor of Little Easton. It consisted of what belonged to Richard, son of earl Gilbert. Aveline, one of his sisters and coheirresses, conveyed it, by marriage, to William de Fortz, earl of Albemarle, about the year 1258. Their first surviving child, Aveline, was married to Edmund, the second son of king Henry the third, and, in her right, he had fourteen knights' fees, as of the inheritance of Richard Montfichet: Richard de Pavelin held four of them under him, some of which lay in this

* Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 98; and Fuller's Worthies in Essex, p. 343, &c. Arms of Godmanston: azure, an eagle displayed, or.

parish and in Ardley. A family took their surname from this parish, of whom was **John de Brumle**, or **Bromley**, who, in 1347, held the sixth part of a knight's fee here, under **John de Louvayne**, for which he paid a sparrow-hawk yearly.

Lands and tenements, called **Braham hall**, **Marshalls**, **Boltons**, **Straceys**, and **Alphrites**, which were holden of the honour of **Clare**, and afterwards of the duchy of **Launcester**, formerly belonged to this manor; these have been detached from it, and the remainder has passed, as the other manor did, from **Godmanston** to **Brown**, and to **Gray**, and **Cockayn**, and **Pirton**, by whom it was sold in parcels to **Charles Cardinal**, attorney at law, and various proprietors. **Straceys** and **Alphrites** were sold to **Paul Bayning, esq.** **Braham hall** afterwards became the property of **Richard Rigby, esq.** of **Mistley hall**, and now belongs to **lord Rivers**. **Sprat-lane farm** in this parish was purchased with queen **Anne's** bounty for the augmentation of the vicarage of **Brightlingssea**.

The church is a plain building, with a stone tower. It is dedicated to **St. Mary**.*

Church.

The population of this parish in 1821 amounted to three hundred and forty-nine, and to three hundred and eighty-three in 1831.

GREAT BROMLEY.

This parish extends southward from **Little Bromley**, and is ten miles in circumference: distant six miles from **Colchester**, and fifty-eight from **London**.

Great
Bromley.

Brietmar was the name of the proprietor of this lordship in the reign of **Edward the Confessor**; and **Ralph Lionel** held it under **Geofrey de Magnaville** at the time of the survey. There are two manors.

Great Bromley hall is near the north-west corner of the churchyard. **William de Langvalei** held it under the family of **de Vere**, in the reign of king **Henry the second**; his son **William** was his successor, whose son, of the same name, dying in 1217, left, by his wife, daughter of **Alan Basset**, an only daughter, named **Hawise**, who, being in the wardship of **Hubert de Burgh**, earl of **Kent**, and chief justice of **England**, was disposed of in marriage to his son **John de Burgh**. Their only son and heir was **John**, who succeeded to his mother's estates in 1274, and at the time of his decease, in 1280, left three daughters: **Devorguill**, who became the second wife of **Robert Fitzwalter**; **Hawise**, married to **Robert Gresley**; and **Christian**, who became a nun at **Chicksand**. By the courtesy of **England**, **Robert Fitzwalter** enjoyed a moiety of this estate, in right of his wife, till his death in 1325. **Robert Gresley** died in 1284, and **Hawise** his wife in 1299, and **Thomas** their son dying without surviving offspring, was succeeded in the estate by his sister, **Joane de Gresley**, married to **John**, son of **Roger de la Ware**, to whom she conveyed large possessions. One of **Robert Fitzwalter's** daughters by **Devorguill** by marriage brought part of this estate to **John le Mareshall**,

Great
Bromley
hall.

* There is an alms-house here for two dwellers, but it has no endowment.

Charity.

BOOK II. in whose family it remained till 1316, when, on failure of male heirs, it was, by Hawise, daughter of sir William le Mareshall, conveyed to her husband, Robert de Morle, who died in 1360. Sir William and sir Thomas were successors of the same family.

The other moiety of the manor, which belonged to Gresley, passed to the Doreward family, but whether by marriage or purchase is not known. In 1336 it was in possession of Amicia, widow of Thomas Doreward, who on her death left two sons, of whom Elias, the younger, married Anne, daughter of John Martell, of Martells hall, in Ardley.* The Doreward family retained possession till 1438, when, on failure of male heirs, Elizabeth, the daughter of Elias Doreward, conveyed it to her husband, David Mortimer, esq.; and from this family it was also conveyed by a female heir to George Guilford, son of sir Richard Guilford, comptroller of the household to king Henry the seventh. From this family it passed, in 1554, to William Cardinal,† and from his posterity was conveyed to Nicholas Tiperly and Edward Newport, esquires, in 1607; and they, in 1618, conveyed it to sir Thomas Bowes, of a family originally from York.‡

Thomas Mannock, esq. youngest son of sir Francis Mannock, bart. of Giffords hall, in Stoke, purchased this estate after the death of sir Thomas Bowes. He had three wives, one of whom was Mary, daughter of Thomas Varvell, esq. barber to king Charles the second; but he had no children by any of them; and on his decease Bromley hall and Martell's hall descended to the heir at law, sir Francis Mannock, bart. of Giffords hall; who, in 1758, was succeeded by his eldest son, sir William Mannock, bart.; whose son of the same name was his successor, in 1764. It now belongs to Alexander Baring, esq.

Cold hall. The manor of Cold hall has the mansion about three quarters of a mile south from the church. This has been generally joined to the other manor, or passed along with it. In the fifteenth century it belonged to a family named Seyntecler, or Saint Clere, who also held lands in St. Osyth. In 1549 it was conveyed by John Saint

* Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 97.

† Fox's Book of Martyrs, p. 931; Strype's Annals, vol. i. ed. 1709, p. 39.

‡ Thomas Bowes was father of sir Martin Bowes, lord mayor of London in 1545, whose son was Martin Bowes, esq. of Jenkins, in Barking. Sir Thomas Bowes, the purchaser of this estate, was fifty years a justice of peace for this county, and distinguished himself by his active exertions in the barbarous trials and cruel execution of a considerable number of poor silly persons called witches. On his death, in 1676, he was buried in the patron's chapel in Great Bromley church. He left two sons, Thomas; and William, rector of Tendring, who died in 1670, and was buried in this church: and also several daughters. Thomas Bowes, esq., the eldest son and heir, married Elizabeth, daughter of Richard Harlakenden, esq. of Earl's Colne, and had by her Thomas Harlakenden; and Mary, married to John Haynes, esq., of Copford hall. Thomas Harlakenden Bowes, esq., the son, by his wife Elizabeth, only daughter of sir Thomas Smith, knt., of Sutton, in Suffolk, had a son, named Thomas, and two daughters, Elizabeth, married to Thomas Mason, esq., of Manningtree; and Bridget, married to Read Grinston, of Chapel.

Clere to William Cardinal, and afterwards became the property of Mr. Samuel Salmon.

CHAP.
XXI.

The church is dedicated to St. George, and is a large and handsome building, with a nave, and lofty side aisles; and on the south side of the chancel there is a chapel called the Patron's chapel. The roof of the whole building is of elegant and highly ornamented workmanship, and a high and handsome tower contains five bells.

Church.

There used formerly to be a great abundance of painted glass in the windows here, but much of it has been destroyed.

In 1821 there were in this parish six hundred and twenty-three inhabitants, and six hundred and ninety-seven in 1831.

ELMSTEAD.

The parish of Elmstead extends westward from Great Bromley, part of it bordering on the river Colne. Its name is Saxon, Elm, and *sted*, the place of elms, as being remarkable for the growth of trees of that kind. In records it is written Almsteda, and Eumsted. The parish is five miles in circumference; distant, four miles east from Colchester, and fifty-five from London. There is a fair here yearly on the fifteenth of May. Robert, the son of Wimark, was the possessor of this parish in the time of Edward the confessor; and Suene, and his under-tenant Sincus, held it at the time of the survey. There are two manors.

Elmstead.

Elmstead-hall is near the church, on the south, and pleasantly situated. A family named Fitz-William held this lordship, with the manors of Stapleford, Tany, and Great Stanbridge, during the reigns of Henry the second, Richard the first, and of king John: Richard Fitz-William was succeeded by William Fitz-Richard, who died in 1260. Margery, his daughter and heiress, conveyed the estates to her husband, sir Richard de Tany. In 1253 he procured a license to keep a market and a fair at his town of Elmsted, from which we may infer, that a village in this parish, about a mile from the church, has retained the name of Elmstead-market to this day. He died in 1271, holding the manor of Elmstead of the king, as of the honour of Raleigh. He also held other manors, as did his son Richard, his successor, in 1296, who was succeeded by Roger in 1301, whose son and heir, Laurence de Tany, dying without surviving offspring in 1317, his sister Margaret inherited his estates. Margaret, his widow, had this in dower, and was remarried to sir Thomas de Weston, who enjoyed it during his life.

Elmstead
hall.

Margaret de Tany, sister and heiress of Laurence, was married to John de Drokensford, who died in 1341; but Thomas, the son of John de Drokensford, at the time of his decease in 1361,* held this manor, and left it to his only daughter and

BOOK II.

heiress, Anne, married to sir Thomas Mandeville, son of Walter Mandeville, of Black Notley. Dying in 1499, without surviving offspring, he was succeeded by his two sisters, Joane, wife of John Barry, esq. and Alice, wife of Helmingius Legatt. Joane had this estate for her purparty, and, after her first husband's decease, was married to William Pirton, or Pyrton, esq., of Ipswich. His son, John, was the father of sir William Pirton, who died in 1490, and was succeeded in this possession by his son William; whose son and successor, of the same name, on his decease in 1533, left sir William Pirton his son and heir; whose son, Edmund, was the next heir to this estate on his father's death, in 1551: he was succeeded by his cousin, Edmund Pirton, esq., in 1609; whose brother William succeeded to the estate in 1617.

The manor of Elmstead afterwards belonged to sir Harbottle Grimston, knt. and bart., and to a family of the name of Rich. In 1692 it was sold by Richard Rich, to John Hurlock; on whose death, in 1710, it became the property of his second son, James; and afterwards passed to different individuals of the same family.* It since belonged to William Hale, esq., an opulent grocer, who died 25th May, 1789.

The manor of Motts and Bannings-marsh is an estate of which no distinct account has been preserved. It was some time ago the property of Mr. John Wallis, of Colchester.

The estate of Elmstead-park belongs to the governors of the Charter-house.

Christmas-grove, and Hou-wood, are the property of Caius college, Cambridge.

Church.

The church is dedicated to St. Anne and St. Laurence, and has a nave, chancel, and a south aisle which is called a chapel, and at the west end of which, over the entrance-porch, there is a tower, rising no higher than the roof of the church.† The chapel, or aisle, is repaired by the owner of Elmstead-hall, who, on that account, is not charged with the churchwarden's rate. This church was a rectory, and presented to by the owners of the hall till 1382, when Aubery de Vere, the tenth earl of Oxford, and Clement Spice, gave two acres of land, and the advowson of this church, to the abbey of St. Osyth, to find a canon, or secular priest, to perform divine service in the church of that abbey every day for ever, and to pray for the souls of Robert de Naylinghurst, and all the faithful departed this life. In 1411 the great tithes were appropriated to the abbey, and a vicarage ordained at Elmstead, which continued till the dissolution.‡

* Arms of Hurlock: Vert, a chevron, sable, between three Moor's heads couped, escamioned, or. Crest, on a pedestal, a Blackamoor's head.

† An ancient wooden effigy of a man in armour, cross-legged, lies between the south aisle and the nave: it has been supposed to represent a Templar of the family of Fitz-William, or of Tany; others have believed it to be intended for sir John de Mandeville.

‡ Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 244.

In 1824, there were six hundred and ninety-three; and, in 1831, seven hundred and thirty-two inhabitants in this parish.

CHAP
XXI.

This parish extends northward from Great Bentley, and is eighteen miles in circumference; distant from Colchester eight miles, and from London fifty-nine.

Previous to the Conquest, these lands belonged to Eluvin and Wisgar; and at the time of the survey, to Allan, earl of Bretagne, and Richard Fitzgislobert, lord of Clare: their undertenants being Henry de Spain, and a person named Roger. These two lordships became afterwards united in one manor.

Little
Bentley.

After the two earls it is not known who were their successors till the time of king Edward the second, in whose reign it belonged to a family named le Gros. In 1360, Alesia, and Hugh le Gros, her husband, held this manor of the bishop of London: on her death she was succeeded by her son, William le Gros; who, two years afterwards, dying, his brother Thomas became his heir; and next followed sir John le Gros; on whose death, in 1383, the estate passed to sir Richard de Sutton, who had the advowson of the church and a chantry here. He had also the manor of Wivenhoe. Thomas was his son and heir.

Bentley
hall.

Sir Bartholomew Bouchier is supposed to have become possessed of this estate by marriage with Margaret, widow of sir John de Sutton. He was summoned to parliament from the first to the tenth of king Henry the fourth. Idonea Lovee, widow of Edmund, son of sir John Brookesborne, was his second wife, to whom he left the estate on his decease in 1409, and she survived him about a year. Their only daughter was married first to sir Hugh Stafford, youngest son of Hugh, earl of Stafford, who, in her right, taking the title of Lord Bouchier, was summoned to parliament, and attended king Henry the fifth in his wars in France. He died in 1421, and his lady was married to a second husband, sir Lewis Robessart, K.G. standard bearer to king Henry the sixth. He died in 1430; his lady in 1433; and they were both buried in St. Paul's chapel in Westminster abbey. Henry Bouchier, earl of Eu, son of sir William Bouchier, grandson of sir William, brother of John lord Bouchier, was the next heir to this estate; but it soon after passed to the Pyrton family, who made this place their chief residence;† till after the

* Average annual produce per acre: wheat twenty-four, barley thirty-two, bushels.

† William Pyrton, esq. by Joan, widow of John Barry, sister and co-heiress of Thomas Mandeville, had John, father of sir William, a brave warrior, captain of Guisnes in Picardy. Sir William died in 1490, and was buried in Bentley church, where Katharine, his wife, was also buried, on her death in 1501. They had five sons and five daughters, of whom William, the eldest son, was sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1502: he had Margaret, married to William Roberts, esq. of Little Braxted; and William, his successor and heir; who, dying in 1533, was succeeded by sir William Pyrton, his son and heir, who married Margaret, daughter and co-heiress of William Salford, and died in 1551. His son Edmund was

BOOK II. death of William, father of Edmund and William Pyrton, it was sold* to Paul Bayning, esq.*

In 1557, on the death of Penelope, youngest daughter of Paul viscount Bayning, this estate became the purparty of Anne, her only surviving sister, who conveyed it to her husband, the earl of Oxford, and they took down the stately and magnificent seat of Bentley hall, erected in the reign of king James the first, by Paul Bayning, and sold the materials, of which some of the most costly are yet to be seen in many of the best houses of Colchester, and in other places: and about the year 1680 they sold the reversion of this and other estates to Edward Peck, esq. sergeant at law, of Little Samford; Edward Rigby, esq. of Covent Garden; Mrs. Pierpont, and others: who, on the death of the earl, in 1703, joined in procuring an act of parliament to settle the division of the said estates; when this became the property of William Peck, esq. the

his heir, whose wife was Constance, daughter of Thomas lord Darcy, of St. Osyth: he was high sheriff of Essex in 1574; and dying in 1609, was succeeded by his cousin and next heir, Edmund Pyrton, esq.; on whose decease, in 1617, William, his brother, was his heir. The father of these two brothers was slain at the battle of Newport in Flanders, whose father had been forty-five years a justice of peace for this county.

Arms of Pyrton:—Ermine, on a chevron engrailed, azure, three leopard's faces, or. Crest:—A helmet on a chapeau, a wivern standing.

* This family was originally of Neyland, in Suffolk. Richard Bayning lived at Dedham about the close of the fifteenth century; and his son Richard married Anne, daughter and co-heiress of Robert Raven, of Creting St. Mary's, in Suffolk, and had Richard of Dedham, who by Anne daughter of John Barker, of Ipswich, had Paul, and Andrew, a very eminent merchant in Mincing lane. Paul was a citizen and alderman of London, and, in 1593, one of the sheriffs of that city. He accumulated a very large fortune by mercantile pursuits, as did also his brother Andrew. In the chancel of St. Olave's church in Hart street, there is a monument erected to their memory, from which we learn that Paul died in 1616, aged seventy-seven. His first wife was of Needham, or Creting, in Suffolk, and named Mowse; his second was Susan, daughter and heiress of Richard Norden of Mistley, by whom he had his only son, sir Paul Bayning, knt. and bart., sheriff of Essex in 1617, baron Bayning of Horkelesley in Essex in 1627, and viscount Sudbury in Suffolk. He married Anne, daughter of sir Henry Glemham, knt. by Anne Sackville, daughter of Thomas earl of Dorset, by whom he had Paul his son and heir, and four daughters, of whom Elizabeth was married to Francis lord Dacre, and in 1680 created countess of Sheppey. Sir Paul died at his house in Mark lane in 1629, possessed of a very large real and personal estate, amounting to the astonishing sum of a hundred and fifty-three thousand pounds fifteen shillings. His widow was remarried to Dudley Carleton, viscount Dorchester. Paul viscount Bayning, his heir, paid the king eighteen thousand pounds for the fine of his wardship. He died at Bentley hall in 1639, and was buried in a vault in the parish church. By his lady Penelope, only daughter and heiress of sir Robert Naunton, knt., master of the court of wards and liveries, he had two daughters, Anne and Penelope.

Anne was married to Aubrey de Vere, the twentieth and last earl of Oxford of that most noble and ancient family: he had no surviving offspring by this lady; but her large estate was at that time a very necessary supply for the support of the sinking fortunes of the house, reduced to the verge of ruin by the unlimited extravagance of earl Edward, his predecessor. Penelope, the youngest daughter, was married to John Herbert, esq. youngest son of Philip, earl of Pembroke and Montgomery; on whose death she was again married to John Wentworth, esq., but left no surviving offspring.

sergeant's grandson; and his son William sold it, in 1740, to John Moore, esq. of Southgate, in Middlesex; from whom it was again disposed of to sir Perry Brett, knt. captain of a man of war, and a commodore.

The Peck family had three other estates here, which were purchased of William Peck, esq. by Charles Reynolds, esq. lord of the manor of Peldon, who left them by will to his cousin, the rev. W. S. Powell, D.D. This estate now belongs to John Shaw, esq.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, has a nave and north aisle leaded, and a chancel tiled. The tower is of stone, and contains five bells.* Church.

There was formerly a chantry in this church, founded in conformity to provisions made in the will of sir John, brother and heir of William, and son of Hugh Gros. The old chapel belonging to it was therefore at that time rebuilt, and a chantry founded in 1386 for one chaplain, called Grose-Preste. At the suppression, the return made was, that the priest was to sing mass here, and help to serve the cure.

The population of this parish in 1821 amounted to four hundred and two, and to four hundred and thirty-eight in 1831.

GREAT BENTLEY.

The lands of this parish are of uneven surface, pleasingly diversified with hill and dale. It extends southward from Little Bentley, as far as a creek that communicates with the river Colne, and is eleven miles in circumference: nine miles from Colchester, and sixty from London.

Great
Bentley.

There are fairs held here on Monday following Trinity Monday for cattle; last Friday in September for sheep; and on the Monday after St. Swithin's.

In the time of Edward the Confessor Uluuin was the owner of this parish; which, at the survey, had become the property of Alberic de Vere, ancestor of the noble family of the first earls of Oxford. The ancient family mansion stood formerly in Hall field, and was a stately and splendid seat, with a moat, and fish-ponds, and a park; but of these there are now no remains.† The eighth earl made his will here in 1370; and so also did his widow, Maud, in 1412.

* Among the inscriptions in the church are the following:

“In this chancel lies buried sir William Pyrton, knt., a brave warrior, captain of Guisnes in Picardy. He died July 1, 1490. Here lies, also, Catharine, his wife, who deceased 10 Sept. 1501. They had five sons and five daughters.”

Inscrip-
tions.

An epitaph in the window of the aisle informs us that William, the grandson of sir William Pyrton, is buried here, and that he died in 1533. In the chancel:—“Beneath, in the gault of this chancel, lie the remains of Paul viscount Bayning, who died at Bentley hall, 11 June, 1533.”

† This parish yet remains subject to the ancient custom of Borough English, which authorizes the lord to sleep with the bride of his copyhold tenant the first night after the marriage.

BOOK II.

The hall.

The manor-house is a capital mansion on the north side of the church. The lordship was part of the baronial possessions of the de Vere's, till the attainder of John, the twelfth earl, in 1460, when it went to the crown, and was granted to John Howard, duke of Norfolk, in 1486. But on the accession of king Henry the seventh, it was restored to its former noble proprietors, with whom it remained till Edward, the seventeenth earl, by extravagance became poor and necessitous, and was obliged to sell this estate to a gentleman named Glascock; of whom it was purchased by sir Roger Townshend; on whose death, in 1590, it descended to his son, sir John; and to his grandson, sir Roger Townshend, bart.; and to sir Horatio; who sold it to Nicholas Corsellis; and he sold it to George Papillon, esq., son of David Papillon, esq., by Anna Maria Calendrine, of the family of that name, of Lubeck, sister of the celebrated pastor of the Dutch congregation in London. His son Samuel, of Hackney, succeeded; whose eldest son and heir, David, was the father of John Papillon, esq., of Inglefield in Berkshire.* The family estates and possessions here were the manor, the hall, the lodge, and the parsonage glebe: these were afterwards sold to Thomas Lomax Clay, esq.; whose descendant, Richard Lomax Clay, esq., dying intestate, Mrs. Martha Clay, his sister, a maiden lady, became entitled, as his heiress at law, to this manor, which she by will devised with her other estates to Rawson Parke and Peter Godfrey, esquires, as trustees, for sale. The manor was purchased by the late William Francis, esq. solicitor, of Colchester; on whose decease it devolved to his son, William W. Francis, esq., solicitor, also of that town,—the present proprietor.†

The capital mansion and estate of the Lodge belongs to Alexander Baring, esq.; the Hall estate to George Bridges, esq.; the Sturrick to the trustees of the will of Jacob Whitbread, esq. late of Loudham hall in Norfolk.

An estate here, with the woods called Great and Little Catlins, belong to Caius and Gonville college, Cambridge.

Church.

The church, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, is on the west side of a beautiful green. The arches of the doors are semicircular, and covered with roses and other ornaments; part of the nave is ceiled, but none of the chancel; and there is a gallery at the west end, where a tower rises to the height of nearly sixty feet, and is composed of flints and stone of a peculiar appearance, supposed to be rag-stone, laying in an inclined position in some parts of the building. In this tower there are five bells.

Alberic de Vere gave this church to the monks of Abingdon in Berkshire, with the priory of Earl's Colne, founded by him for a cell to that monastery; and the grant

* Arms of Papillon:—Azure, a chevron, argent, between three butterflies flying, or.

† Arms of Francis:—Argent, a chevron, azure, between three leopards' heads, sable. Crest:—On a wreath of the colours, a leopard's paw encircled with a wreath, vert.

was confirmed by Alberic, his son, and by king Henry the first; and the great tithes were appropriated to Colne priory in 1321 by the bishop of London, who ordained a vicarage here in 1323, reserving the collation of it to himself and his successors for ever.*

In 1821 there were seven hundred and ninety-four inhabitants in this parish, and nine hundred and seventy-eight in 1831.

FRATING.

The pleasant and generally high lands of this parish extend westward from the two Bentleys: it is in general well-watered, and the soil light.† The circumference measures about five miles: it is five miles from Colchester, and fifty-seven from London. Frating.

In records the name of this parish is written Freting, and in Domesday Fretingham; names derived, as is supposed, from the Saxon Frea, a lord, and ing, a meadow or pasture. The possessor of this lordship under the Confessor was named Retel; and at the time of the survey it belonged to Ralph Peverel, whose under tenant was Tuold: afterwards, it was divided into two manors; and the manor of Great Bentley has been extended over a considerable part of this parish.

The manor of Frating has the hall, or mansion, on the north side of the church. It belonged to the honour of Tutbury, of which it was holden by the noble family of Ferrers; and, under them, by a family surnamed de Frating, from the place. John de Frating held this manor in 1308, and had also lands in Great Bromley. Alice Frating was his only daughter and heiress, and conveyed it in frank marriage to her husband Robert de Cheddeworth, and they settled the estate by fine in 1321. Thomas de Chedworth, cl., held this as one knight's fee under Henry de Ferrers, in 1336. It was holden, in 1358, by John de Vere, the seventh earl of Oxford, and was in the possession of Dr. Robert Wells; it passed next to the Ford family,‡ of St. Osyth and Great Horkesley, which they retained till Elianor, the daughter of John Ford of Great Horkesley, conveyed it to her husband, Thomas Bendish, esq. of Bumsted-steeple. He had also other lands in this and some adjoining parishes, named Christmasses, Belches, Gateland and Crabtrees, the Pounding and Swallows, Heckford, Hull-wood, and Pipsgrove. He died in 1602, and was succeeded by his eldest son and heir, Thomas, created a baronet in 1611, who sold this estate to Dr. Pierce; and he gave it to the present possessors, the master and fellows of Caius college, Cambridge. Frating hall.

Moverons is about a mile north from the church. This name has been given to manors in Bromley and Brightlingsea: they have all been in possession of the Moverons.

* Monast. Anglic. vol. i. p. 436; and Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 49.

† Average annual produce per acre: wheat twenty, barley thirty-two, oats thirty-six, bushels.

‡ Arms of Ford:—Argent, a talbot saliant, sable.

BOOK II. **St. Clere family, of whom sir John St. Clere died in 1546, holding the manor of Moverons in Frating and Bromley of William Cardinal, as of his manor of Great Bromley. John was his son and heir.**

Beriff
family.

It next went to the Beriff family, formerly resident at an ancient house called Jacobs, in Brightlingsea; and there are numerous memorials of the family in the church there, the most ancient of which bears the date of 1496. Augustin Beriff was the father of William, who married Catharine, daughter of William Draper of Aldham, by whom he had William and John. William Beriff, esq. of Colchester, the eldest son, held the manor of Moverons in Frating and Bromley, and possessions in Colchester and Greenstead. On his death, in 1627, he was succeeded by his son William, who, by Frances Sidemore, of Ipswich, had John, Anne, and Mary. John was succeeded by Richard Beriff, esq. who lived at this place. His daughter was married to James Harvey, esq. of Cockfield, in Suffolk; but having no children, Mrs. Beriff gave this and other estates to Jacob Brand, esq., whose heir was his brother, William Beale Brand, esq. of Polsted hall.

Church.

The church is small, and has a tower and three bells.*

The population of this parish in 1821 amounted to two hundred and sixty-three, and in 1831 to two hundred and sixty-nine.

THORINGTON.

Thoring-
ton.

This parish lies south from Frating: it is a lowland district, with a sandy and light soil:† its circumference, about seven miles: distant from Colchester seven, and from London fifty-seven, miles.

The name is supposed to be from the Saxon *Ðop*, a heathen deity; *ing*, a meadow; and *tun*, a tower. In records it is written Thoryton, Thoriton, Thureton, Thuritone, Thurton, Toriton; and in Domesday, Torindune. In Edward the Confessor's reign it belonged to Adstan; and, after the Conquest, was one of the two hundred and sixteen lordships given to Odo, bishop of Bayeaux, of which thirty-nine were in Essex: his under tenant was named Ralph; but it had been unjustly seized by Turolf of Rochester. It has only one manor.

Thoring-
ton hall.

Thorington hall is near the church. Hubert de Anesty had this estate in 1199; and his son Nicholas succeeded him; leaving, on his decease, Dionysia, his only daughter, his heiress, who was married to William de Montchensy, baron of Swainscamp, in Kent: whose sister, Joan, was married to William de Valence, earl of Pembroke, brother to king Henry the third. William and Dionysia de Montchensy

* The living, which is a rectory, is in the gift of the master, fellows, and scholars of St. John's college, Cambridge, and it is united to that of Thorington. On the north side of this church there is a handsome monument to the memory of Thomas Bendish, esq., of Bumsted-steeple, owner of Frating manor. His first wife is also buried here.

† Average annual produce per acre: wheat twenty, barley twenty-eight, bushels.

had two children, William, who died without offspring in 1289; and Dionysia, married to Hugh de Vere, second son of Robert, the fifth earl of Oxford, who in her right became baron of Swainscamp. They both died in 1313, leaving no surviving offspring; and were succeeded in this and their other great estates by Adomar de Valence, son of William and Joan; he died in 1324, and his lady, Mary de St. Paul, in 1376. Leaving no children, the estates were divided among his three sisters: Isabel, married to John de Hastings, lord Bergavenny; Joan, to John lord Comyn, of Badenoch; and Agnes, married first to Maurice Fitzgerald, and afterwards to Henry Baliol.

The heirs of Isabel inherited this estate, of whom John de Hastings, baron Bergavenny, died in 1324; his son Laurence, earl of Pembroke, in 1348; John, in 1375; and John de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, who came to the possession of this estate, was killed at a tournament in 1389, the 17th year of his age. He married Philippa, daughter of Edmund Mortimer, the third earl of March, but had no children.

Julian, mother of Laurence de Hastings, remarried to William de Clinton, earl of Huntingdon, held this manor in dower till her death in 1367.

On the violent death of John de Hastings, the last earl of Pembroke of this family, his heirs were found to be, sir Richard Talbot, son of Gilbert, son of Elizabeth, one of the daughters of Joan, sister of Adomar de Valence; Elizabeth, wife of sir John le Scrope; and Philippa, wife of John Halesham, daughter of David de Strathbogie, earl of Athol, son of David, son of Joan; another daughter of the aforesaid Joan, sister of Adomar. But they did not inherit this estate, for John de Hastings, earl of Pembroke, had settled it on his mother's sister's son, William de Beauchamp, a younger son of Thomas earl of Warwick, together with the barony of Bergavenny. On his decease in 1411, he was succeeded by his son, Richard de Beauchamp, created earl of Worcester in 1419, slain at the siege of Meaux, in France. Elizabeth, his only daughter, was his heiress, married to sir Edward Neville, fourth son of Ralph earl of Westmorland, who, in her right, became lord Bergavenny. On his decease in 1476, George, his only surviving son, succeeded; who also left George lord Bergavenny his son and heir in 1492; and he, in 1521, sold this manor, and that of Redgwell, to John Fisher, bishop of Rochester, and Hugh Ashton, archdeacon of York, executors to Margaret, countess of Richmond, for the use of St. John's college, Cambridge, of which that lady was the foundress.

This manor is divided into several farms of considerable extent, particularly the Marsh, or Dairy-house farm.

Great and Little Hockley woods belong to Gonville and Caius college, Cambridge.

The church has a nave and chancel, and a north aisle extending the length of the whole building, and leaded: the tower is built with a mixture of flints and stone, and contains five bells. It is dedicated to the Virgin Mary. John Deth, as we are informed by an inscription, lies buried in the belfry; he died in April, 1477, and

Church.

BOOK II. was a great benefactor to this church, which was either about that time rebuilt, or greatly repaired, to effect which he is supposed to have considerably assisted.*

This parish, in 1821, contained three hundred and fifty-three, and in 1831, four hundred and thirty-one, inhabitants.

ALRESFORD.

Alresford. This parish, bounded westward by the river Colne, occupies high ground, and has a light sandy soil;† the name is derived from the Saxon Alp, or Alep, Alder, and Fopð, a ford, that is, Aldersford; it is written in records Aleford, Allesford, Elesford. Six miles from Colchester, and fifty-four from London.

Edward, Edwald, and Algar, were the owners of these lands in the Saxon times; and at the survey they belonged to Eustace earl of Boulogne: and his under-tenant, Hato, held what had belonged to Edward; the bishop of London had Edwald's part; and Richard Fitzgislebert had what had belonged to Algar, who was permitted to hold it under him;—a rare instance of an allowance of this kind after the Norman Conquest. There are two manors.

Alresford
hall.

Alresford hall, the manor-house, is south-east from the church, at a short distance. Geoffrey de Fercles held this manor in 1211; and the next recorded possessor was Lucy de Apleford, who died in 1270; William was her son and heir. Andrew de Thunderderle, at the time of his decease in 1311, held possessions here by the fourth part of a knight's fee, a race of ginger, and a stalk of clove-gilly flowers, and suit at the court of Boulogne; Philip was his heir. After several other proprietors, in which an unity of possession is preserved with a clear distinction of the two manors mentioned at the survey, these estates, in 1361, belonged to sir John de Coggeshall; succeeded by sir Henry, his son and heir. He married Margery, daughter and heiress of Humphrey de Stanton, and had by her sir William de Coggeshall, who leaving no issue male, his large inheritance went among his four daughters and coheiresses, Blanch, Alice, Margaret, and Maud. This estate was conveyed to her husband, John Doreward, esq. of Bocking, by Blanch, the eldest daughter. They had four sons, of whom John was the eldest, and became his father's heir in 1476; he held this estate till his decease in 1480; when he was succeeded by his uncle, William Doreward, esq., who, by his wife Margery, daughter and coheiress of sir Roger Arsick of Norfolk, had John; and Elizabeth, married to Thomas Fotheringay, esq. of Woodrising, in Norfolk; John, the son and heir, dying without issue in 1495, his estates were divided among his sister Elizabeth Fotheringay's daughters, Margaret, wife of Nicholas Beaupre; Elena, of Henry Thursby, esq.; and Christian, of John de Vere, afterwards the fourteenth earl of Oxford. Margaret Beaupre, the

Alms-
house.

* There is an almshouse near the church for two dwellers.

† Annual average produce per acre: wheat twenty-two, barley twenty-eight, oats thirty-two, bushels.

eldest daughter, had possession of this manor, which she left to her son Edmund Beaupre, in 1513; from whom it passed, in 1556, to his kinsman Edward, son of Henry Thursby, who died in 1558, and left Mary, wife of Richard Barwick, and Anne Wright, his two daughters, his coheireses. But at the time of her death in 1586, Mary Barwick possessed this manor, and left Thomas Barwick, her son, her heir.

William Tabor, doctor of the civil law, among other extensive possessions had this manor in 1611; Martha, his only daughter and heiress, afterwards conveyed it to her husband, John Browne, who sold it to John Hawkins, of Braintree; and he, by will, bequeathed it to his eldest son, John Hawkins, esq., whose only daughter and heiress, Christian, was married to sir John Dawes, bart. of Lyons, in Bocking; whose heirs sold it to Benjamin Field, of London; of whose son it was purchased, in 1720, by Matthew Martin, esq. of Wivenhoe; he left it, in 1749, to his eldest son, Samuel Martin, esq.; who dying in 1765 without children, it descended to his brother, Thomas Martin, esq. counsellor at law.

The manor of Cockayne belonged to John de Cockayne in 1279. It was conveyed by Benedict Cokefield to sir John de Sutton, of Wivenhoe, in 1332, and was in the possession of sir Richard de Sutton at the time of his decease, in 1395, and came to the Martin family about the same time as the manor of Alersford did, but the intermediate possessors of it are not known. Cockayne.

The lodge, a reputed manor, lies near the river Colne. The house is about half a mile south-west from the church. It passed from Mrs. Kinaston of London, to James and Jonathan Phoadam, of Wivenhoe, brothers and mariners. Jonathan, the son of James, subsequently enjoyed it. It was afterwards conveyed to the Martins family. Lodge.

The church is dedicated to St. Peter, and has a shingled spire, with two bells. Church. An ancient inscription in the chancel, in Norman French, to the memory of Anfrid, or Anfrey de Staunton, informs us that this church was erected by him.*

In 1821 there were two hundred and seventy, and in 1831 two hundred and ninety-seven, inhabitants in this parish.

BRIGHTLINGSEA.

This parish, being nearly on all sides surrounded by the water of the sea, or of the river Colne, has been generally reckoned an island: at high tide, it can only be approached by land from the Thorington road. Speed supposes that this is the island to which the Danes fled for shelter, after their defeat by king Alfred, at Farnham;† but succeeding writers have proved this opinion erroneous, and that Church.

* There are two almshouses here, but they have no endowment; and land in the parish is charged with an annuity of thirteen shillings and fourpence to the poor.

† Hist. of Great Britain, p. 1358, ed. 1614.

BOOK II. Mersey was the place of their retreat. Brightlingsea street, or town, is by the sea-side, about a mile distant from the church; its inhabitants are chiefly dependant for support on the trade in oysters, for which the island has always been celebrated. There is also an establishment here for the manufacture of copperas, from the pyrites collected on the coast.

This parish is a member of the town and port of Sandwich, one of the cinque ports in Kent; and formerly, on that account, enjoyed important privileges. The soil* is a rich fertile loam, and rises to a considerable height from the marshes: it is about ten miles in circumference; eight miles south-east from Colchester, and fifty-nine miles distant from London. There is a fair here on the first of June, and also on the fifteenth of October.

Previous to the conquest, this lordship was retained by the crown, but was given to Eudo Dapifer after that event. There are two manors.

Bright-
lingsea
hall.

Brightlingsea hall is near the east end of the church; but the usual residence of the lords of the manor is about half a mile distant, in a southerly direction.

Eudo made this manor part of the endowment of St. John's abbey, in Colchester; and at the dissolution it was granted to Thomas lord Cromwell; upon whose attainder it returned to the crown; till queen Elizabeth, in 1576, granted it to sir Thomas Henneage, one of her privy council. He died in 1595, leaving Elizabeth, his only daughter, who was married to Moyle Finch, esq., created a baronet in 1611; and she herself was created viscountess Maidstone, in 1623; and, in 1628, advanced to the title of countess of Winchelsea. Sir Moyle died in 1614; and this estate was sold to Richard Wilcox,† in whose family it remained till 1660, when it became the property of colonel George Thomson, from whom it passed to captain John South; and was sold to Isaac Brand, of London, who bequeathed it to John Colt, and his heirs male. He was the fourth son of Robert Colt, rector of Semer, in Suffolk, descended from the ancient family of Colt, of Colt's hall, Suffolk. Nicholas Magens, esq., a rich merchant, purchased this manor in 1763. He was highly distinguished by good dispositions and christian virtues: kind and bountiful to his neighbours—just to all men—and exceedingly charitable to the poor; on his death, very sincerely lamented by all who knew him.‡

* Annual average produce per acre: wheat twenty-four, barley thirty two, bushels.

† Arms of Wilcox: Argent, a lion rampant between three crescents, sable: a chief vaire, argent and azure. Crest: A demi-lion rampant, sable gorged vaire argent and azure, issuing out of a crown.

‡ Some of the peculiar customs of this manor are the following: If a tenant dieth possessed of customary tenements, his youngest son shall inherit; or, for want of such son, his youngest daughter; and for want of such daughter, his youngest brother, or sister. Also, the wife shall have no dowry of her husband's customary lands. If two or more persons have a joint estate in any customary lands that are heriotable, there is no heriot due till after the death of the latest liver. If a man have an estate of inheritance, and the wife an estate for life in any customary lands or tenements, being heriotable, the

Moverons is a manor dependant on the chief manor; the mansion is about half a mile from the church. The name in deeds and records, Monviron, Mewarones, Maronis, Morehams, Morehouse.

CHAP.
XXI
Moverons

Osbert de Brightlingsey, who died in 1247, had three sisters, coheiresses, of whom Rhoese, the youngest, was married to Richard Mun'um, and he is supposed to have lived here; and also John de Monviron, and his daughter Mariote, in the year 1260.

John Seintcler died in possession of Moverons in 1493, and so did his son, sir John St. Clerc, in 1546. It next went to the Darcy family, being in the possession of Thomas Darcy, esq. in 1554; and his son Thomas was his successor in 1557; afterwards, sir Thomas Darcy, bart., sold it to Robert Barwell Baymaker, of Witham; of whose son it was purchased, in 1718, by John Colt, esq., and descending to Isaac Brand Colt, esq., was purchased with the other manor, by Nicholas Magens, esq. and now belongs to Magens Dorien Magens, esq. a wealthy London banker.

Brightlingsea church is dedicated to All Saints; it is on a very elevated station, seen at a vast distance both by sea and land, and used as a sea-mark: it has a nave and lofty side aisles, leaded, and a chancel, tiled. A stately tower rises from the west-end, to the height of ninety-four feet, up to the battlements.* Church.

Both the church and the manor originally belonged to St. John's abbey; but, in 1237, the abbot and convent gave the patronage of it to the church of St. Paul, and the bishop of London and his successors; and it was, by the dean and canons, appro-

man being dead, and having any cattle on the day of his death, the heriot shall be seized by the bailiff, and appraised by the tenants, and the wife shall have the use and occupation of the same heriot during her life, putting in sureties to the court for the true payment of the price of the said heriot at her death. The customary tenants, who have an estate of inheritance, are not punishable for selling, or cutting down any wood or timber growing upon their customary lands, nor for taking down, or carrying away, any houses, timber, or other parts of them; so that they keep a sufficient house to make a dwelling. Every tenant of this manor may, for his tenement, according to the custom of the manor, put upon the commons one sheep and a half for every acre that he holdeth, and as many hogs as he may reasonably keep, to be lawfully ringed and yoked; and every cottager may keep one barrow pig, ringed and yoked.

* There lies buried in this church the body of John Beriff, who died in March, 1496; also Mary Beriff, died 29th Sept. 1505; Margaret Beriff, died in 1514; John Beriff, died 26th Aug. 1521; and Mary and Alice, his wives; William Beriff, Mariner, died Sept. 2, 1542, with Joan, his wife; John Beriff, died May 20th, 1542; with John, his eldest son, who, by Anne his wife, had eleven sons and three daughters; he died in May, 1578. Arms of Beriff: On a fesse, gules, a lion passant, or, between six trefoils, slipt, vert. Inscriptions.

A charity of fifty-two shillings a year was bequeathed to the poor of this parish by John Sympson, Charities
rector of St. Olave, Hart-street, London, a native of this place; the money payable at Michaelmas and Lady-day, out of lands in Kirby le Soken.

William Whitman, in 1730, left by will seven pounds a year to be paid to the vicar of this place, on condition that he preaches two sermons every Lord's-day, from Lady-day to Michaelmas, and resides with his family all that time in the vicarage-house, or some other house in the parish.

Six pounds a year were granted by king Henry the first, out of Brightlingsea hall, to St. Mary Magdalen's hospital, Colchester, and this grant was confirmed by king Henry the second.—Monast. Angl. vol. ii. p. 396.

BOOK II. priated to the lights of that church, a vicarage being ordained here, which has remained in the bishop's collation, and exempt from the archdeacon's jurisdiction.

The population of this parish, in 1821, amounted to one thousand and twenty-eight; and in 1831, to one thousand seven hundred and eighty-four.

. ST. OSYTH, ANCIENTLY CALLED CISE, OR CHICH.

St. Osyth. This parish, on the southern extremity of the hundred, extends along the sea-shore. It is about twenty miles in circumference; ten miles south-east from Colchester, and sixty-one from London.

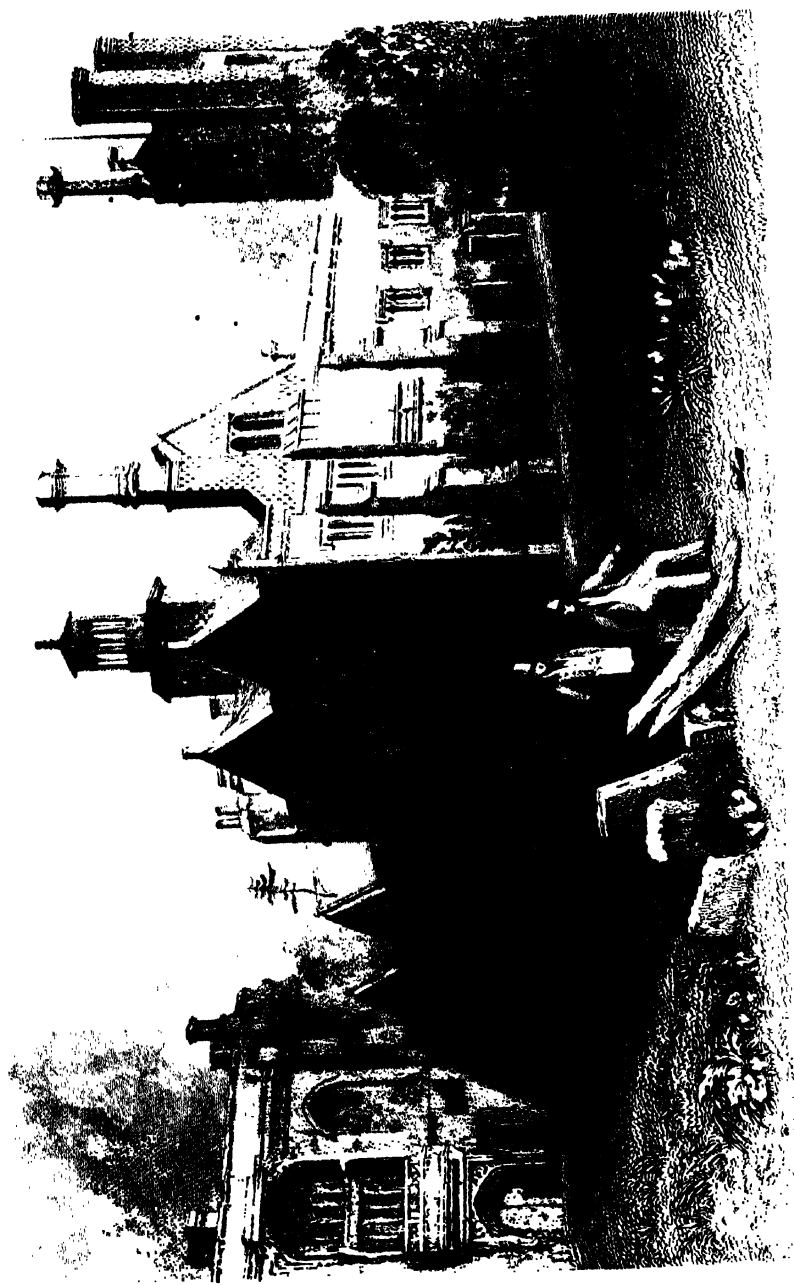
The land rises high from the marshes, and contains a good proportion of a light fertile loam, suitable for turnips; in the marshes heavy, but rich, and well adapted to the growth of forest trees.*

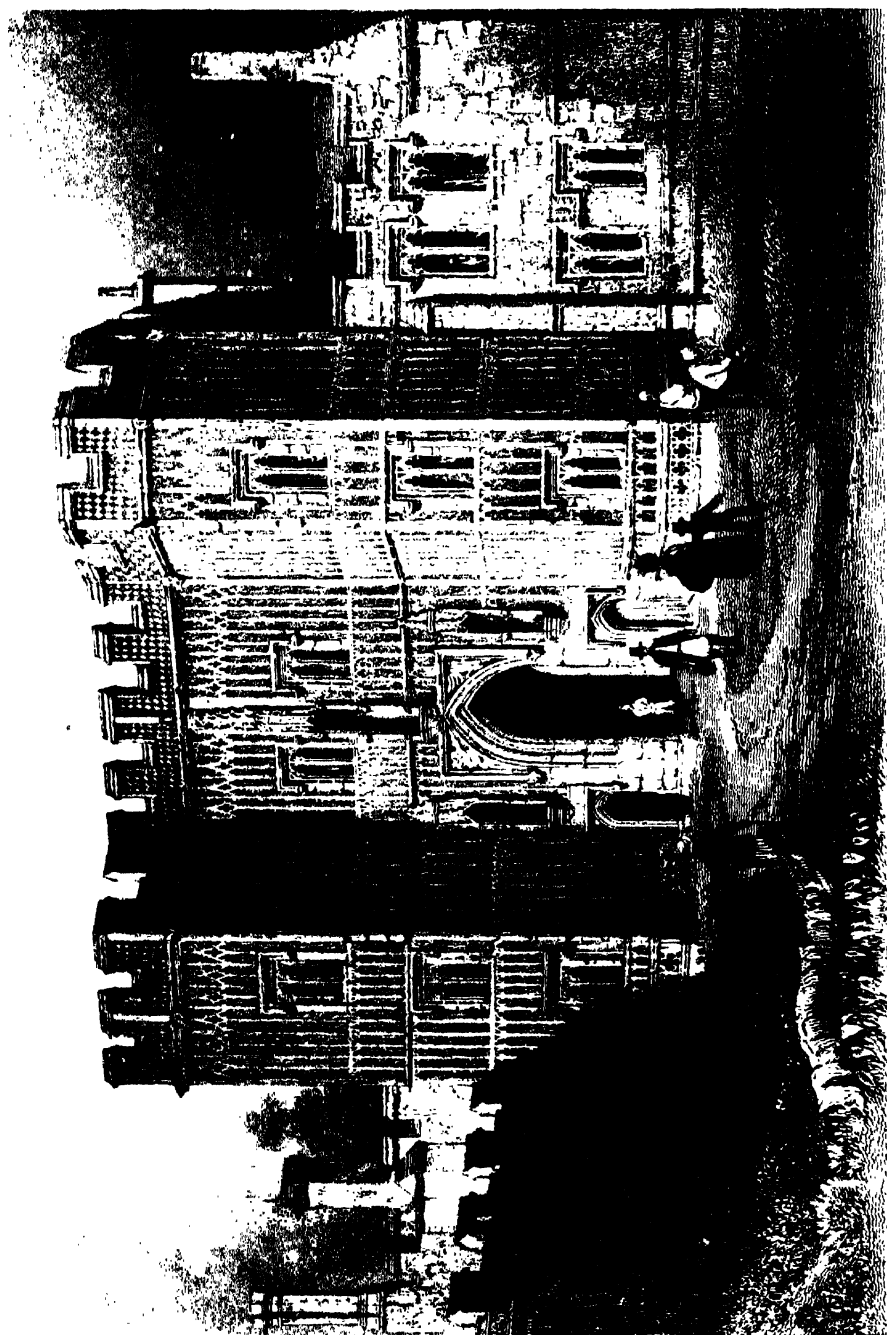
The derivation of the Saxon name of Chich is not known; but that of St. Osyth is from the daughter of Redoald,† king of East Anglia, and virgin-wife of Sighere, a christian king of the East Saxons. She was born at Quarendon, in Buckinghamshire, residing with her aunt at Elesborough, on the Chiltern hills, three miles from Aylesbury. According to the monkish legends, she made a vow of virginity at an early age, but was compelled by her father to marry Sighere; the marriage, however, was never consummated, for, during the absence of her husband, she took the veil, and afterwards obtained his consent to the fulfilment of her vow; for which purpose she retired to the village of Chich, given to her by her husband; and here she founded a church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, and instituted a nunnery of Maturines, of the order of the Holy Trinity. This religious establishment was plundered and destroyed by the Danes, under Ingvar and Hubba, and the royal foundress herself beheaded, at a fountain where she used to bathe, with her virgins. She was buried before the door of her church; but afterwards, her remains were removed to Aylesbury,‡ for fear of the Danes; yet, after an interval of forty-six

* "I had much pleasure," says Mr. Young, "in viewing one of the original Lombardy poplars brought from Italy by lord Rochford above forty years ago, and from which much the greater part of those which are scattered through the kingdom originated; it is a very beautiful tree, guessed to be above seventy feet high; and, at five feet above the ground, measures seven feet three inches in circumference. Very near it, is the largest and most beautiful Portugal laurel I have any where seen; it is almost of a semiglobular form, feathered all round to the lawn it grows on, and is fifty-two yards in circumference. At a small distance from these prodigies of vegetation, is another, at least equal, an arbutus, which would make no inconsiderable figure at Killarney. There are many other exceedingly fine trees, of uncommon growth, in the firm rich loam of these grounds."

† Leland de Script. Brit.

‡ Chronic. Saxon. p. 205—229.





years, they were brought here, and again interred.* Her festival was on the seventh of October.†

CHAP.
XXI.

After the Danes had obtained regal domination in England, Chich, St. Osyth, was given by king Canute to Godwin, earl of Kent, who granted it to Christ church, Canterbury: yet, at the time of the survey, it belonged to the see of London; having been taken from its former appropriation.

The other lands here had belonged before the conquest to a person, named Edward, and to Siuuard; but at the time of the survey had been given to Eustace, earl of Boulogne; and to Ralph Peverel, and his under-tenant, Turolde.

The manor of Chich, belonging to the see of London, bishop Richard de Belmers, surnamed Rufus, who was consecrated in 1108, obtained it for the endowment of his

St. Osyth's
monas-
tery.

* In an account of the burial-place of the English saints, transcribed by Hickes, from an old Anglo-Saxon MS. it is said—

Donne peryteð jee Orgið on Iice neah ðape jæ on jee Petre j mýnre.

i. e. "Next resteth Saint Osith, at Cice, near the sea, in St. Peter's monastery."

See Leland's *Itinerar.* vol. viii. p. 73; and *Monast. Angl.* vol. ii. p. 181.

† The story of St. Osyth, given in an old tract, entitled "Purgatory proved by Miracles," was as follows:—"St. Ositha was daughter of a Mercian prince, named Frithwald, and of Wilterburga, daughter of Pende, king of the Mercians. She was bred up in great piety; and, through her parents' authority, became wife to Sighere, companion of St. Seb, in the kingdom of the East Angles. But preferring the love of a heavenly bridegroom before the embraces of a king, her husband complied with her devotion; and, moreover, not only permitted her to consecrate herself to our Lord, but bestowed on her a village, situated near the sea, called Chic, where, building a monastery, she enclosed herself; and, after she had spent some time in the service of God, it happened that a troop of Danish pirates landed there; who, going out of their ships, wasted and burnt the country thereabout, using all manner of cruelty to the christian inhabitants. Then he who was the captain of that impious band, having learnt the condition and religious life of the blessed virgin, St. Ositha, began by entreaties and presents to tempt her to idolatry; adding withal, threats of scourging, and other torments, if she refused to adore the gods which he worshipped. But the holy virgin, despising his flatteries, and not fearing his threats, made small account of the torments attending her. Whereupon the said captain, enraged at her constancy, and scorn of his idols, pronounced sentence of death against her, commanding her to lay down her head to be cut off. And in the same place where the holy virgin suffered martyrdom, a clear fountain broke forth, which cured several kinds of diseases. As soon as her head was off, the body presently rose up, and taking up the head in the hands, by the conduct of angels walked firmly the straight way to the church of the apostles St. Peter and St. Paul, about a quarter of a mile distant from the place of her suffering. And when it was come there, it knocked at the door with the bloody hands, as desiring it might be opened, and thereon left marks of blood. Having done this, it fell there down to the ground. Now her parents having heard of her death, earnestly desired, as some recompense for their loss, to enjoy the comfort of burying with them her headless body; which, being brought to them, they interred it in a coffin of lead, in the church of Aylesbury, where many miracles were wrought by her intercession. At length, her sacred reliques, by a divine vision, were translated thence, back again to the church of Chic, which Maurice, bishop of London, reposed in a precious coffer: at which time the bishop of Rochester, then present, was cured of a grievous infirmity."

BOOK II. monastery here, giving for it fourteen pounds in land, in Lodesword; and six pounds yearly in land in Sudminster, which he had bought of Robert de Wigecot.* Besides this manor, which included two parks, the monastery was endowed with very extensive possessions. It was founded some time previous to the year 1118, for canons of the order of St. Augustin.

A great benefactor of this institution was Adeliza, the lady of Alberic de Vere, the first earl of Oxford, whose son, a canon here, wrote the life of St. Osyth.† The advowson or presentation to this abbey was granted to the bishop of London in 1205.

At the time of the suppression, in 1539, the abbot and eighteen canons subscribed to the king's supremacy, which shews that the establishment consisted of that number.‡ Soon after the surrender, the site of St. Osyth's monastery was granted, by king Henry the eighth, to Thomas lord Cromwell; and in 1545, an act of parliament passed for erecting St. Osyth's into an honour. On the attainder of lord Cromwell, the premises reverted to the crown; and, in 1553, were granted by king Edward the sixth to Thomas lord Darcy, knight of the garter, and chamberlain of his household. Several branches of the Darcy family have had possessions in different parts of Essex; but the most considerable was that which obtained this estate, and was ennobled, of which sir Thomas Darcy, knt. was the son of Roger Darcy, esq., of

* Carta Roberti de Belmeis, et Monastic. Angl. vol. ii. p. 183.

† St. Osyth appears to have been a saint held in very great veneration. Matthew Paris has handed down to us a story how a certain husbandman, named Thurcillus, who lived at "Tidstude," a village in Essex, "a person very hospitable to his capacity," was taken into purgatory, hell, and paradise, by St. James, and other saints; and when he had come to the most holy and pleasant place in all paradise, there he saw "St. Catherine, St. Margaret, and St. Osith." We also gain some information from the story as to the date of the church at this "Tidstude." Whilst Thurcillus and his conductors, St. Julian and St. Domnius, were in purgatory, "it happened one evening that they saw a devil coming full speed upon a black horse, whom his companions went out to meet with great triumph. St. Domnius compelled the fiend to tell him whose soul it was he so racked with riding. He answered, that it was a peer of England, who died the night before without confession, or receiving the consecrated wafer: that he had been oppressive and cruel, particularly to his own tenants, and that chiefly at the instigation of his wife; and that, having turned him into that horselike form, he had brought him down to eternal punishment. And then the fiend, casting his eyes upon the rustic, said to the saint, 'Who is he?' Said the saint, 'Dost not know him?' 'Yes,' said the fiend, 'I saw this man at Tidstude church, in Essex, at the time of its dedication.' 'In what garb went you in?' said the saint. 'In the garb of a woman,' replied the fiend; 'by the same token that coming up to the font, and intending to go into the chancel, the deacon met me with a holy-water stick, and so frightened me with the sprinkling of that water, that, giving a scream, I leaped at once two furlongs from the church into a field.' And the rustic did affirm, that he and others had heard the noise, but were altogether ignorant of its meaning." This happened, according to Matthew Paris, in the reign of king John, A.D. 1206.

‡ Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 456; and Br. Willis's Hist. of the Abbies, vol. ii. p. 80.

Danbury, sheriff of Essex and Hertfordshire in 1506, and esquire of the body to king Henry the seventh.*

The quadrangle of the monastery is almost entire, except part of the north side, occupied by some modern apartments and two posterns. The entrance is by a beautiful gateway of hewn stone, with flint, having two towers and two posterns.

The buildings on the east and west, used as stables and offices, have the appearance of great antiquity; and three towers on the west, one larger and loftier than the others, command an extensive prospect. St. Osyth is now the seat of Frederick Nassau, esq.

There were other manors and estates in this parish, besides those belonging to the abbey; these constituted the lands possessed by Siuuard, in Edward the Confessor's reign, and by Ralph Peverel, at the time of the survey. They were conveyed from the Peverel family by the marriage of Margaret, daughter and heiress of William Peverel, of Nottingham, to William, son of William de Ferrers, of Groby. He was brother to Robert de Ferrers, the last earl of Derby of this family: and is said to have held possessions here and in various parts of Essex, in 1252, by the service of five knights' fees.

The manor of St. Cleres has the mansion about a quarter of a mile south-east from the church. Juliana, daughter of Peter de Kertlington, and wife of Alexander de Raines, is said to have given to Hugh de Vere, earl of Oxford, all the homage and service which Ralph Fitz-Walter of St. Osyth owed her, for the tenement he held of her in St. Osyth de Chiche, in Suffleete. It appears by the Feodary of the honour

* Sir Thomas, son of sir Thomas Darcy, born in 1506, had several considerable employments under Henry the eighth and Edward the sixth: in 1551 he was created baron Darcy, of Chich, and K. G.; dying in 1558, he was succeeded by his son, John, lord Darcy, on whose decease, in 1581, his heir was his son, Thomas lord Darcy; who had, besides other younger daughters, Elizabeth, married to sir Thomas Savage, of Rock Savage, in the county of Chester, knt. and bart. This lord Darcy, in 1621, was created viscount Colchester for life, remainder to his son-in-law, sir Thomas Savage; and in 1626 was advanced to the title of earl Rivers. He died in 1639; sir Thomas Savage, on whom the titles were entailed, having died before him in 1635, his widow Elizabeth, the eldest daughter, took the title of countess Rivers. By sir Thomas Savage she had John Savage, bart., the eldest son, who succeeded his father, in 1639, in the title of earl Rivers. He died in 1654, leaving Thomas, earl Rivers, the eldest son, his successor. He died in 1694, his eldest son having died before him; and was therefore succeeded by his younger son, the hon.^{ble} Richard Savage, who was lieutenant-general of horse, lord-lieutenant and vice-admiral of the county. By his wife Penelope, daughter of John Downs, esq., he had Elizabeth, married to James Barry, earl of Barrimore. Dying in 1712, and leaving no legitimate surviving issue male, he gave his estates to his natural daughter Bessy. She was married to the right hon. Frederick Zulestern de Nassau, earl of Rochford: and in 1721 an Act was obtained for settling the estates of Richard, late earl Rivers, pursuant to an agreement made between Frederic, earl of Rochford, and Bessy, countess of Rochford, his wife, James Barry, earl of Barrymore, and lady Penelope, his daughter, and John, earl Rivers.

BOOK II.

of Castle Hedingham, that these lands, called St. Clere's Park, and St. Clere's Wic, were held under the earls of Oxford, in the reign of king Henry the third, by Ralph, son of Walter de Osyth, and Cicely St. Clere, in the year 1273, by Philip de St. Osyth, who was succeeded by William St. Clere, and his son and heir John, in 1334. Thomas St. Clere held under Thomas de Vere, the eighth earl of Oxford, and also under his successors Robert and Alberic, in 1384, 1406, 1446, and 1454. William St. Clere held the twelfth part of a knight's fee in Chich, paying four-pence yearly to the manor of Great Bentley. Sir John St. Clere held the manor of Chichridill, or St. Clere's hall, in St. Osyth, of the earl of Oxford, as of his castle of Hedingham, in 1546, by the third part of a knight's fee, then of the yearly value of thirty pounds; he had also the manor of Frodewicke. John was his son and heir; and in 1555 conveyed this manor, with other possessions, to John Gason, esq., from whom it passed to the Darcy family. Thomas Darcy, esq., of Tolleshunt Tregor, held lands and messuages here valued at forty pounds a year, of Thomas lord Darcy, as of his manor of Chich;* and the estate was afterwards purchased of the heirs of the Darcy family, by Mr. Richard Daniel.

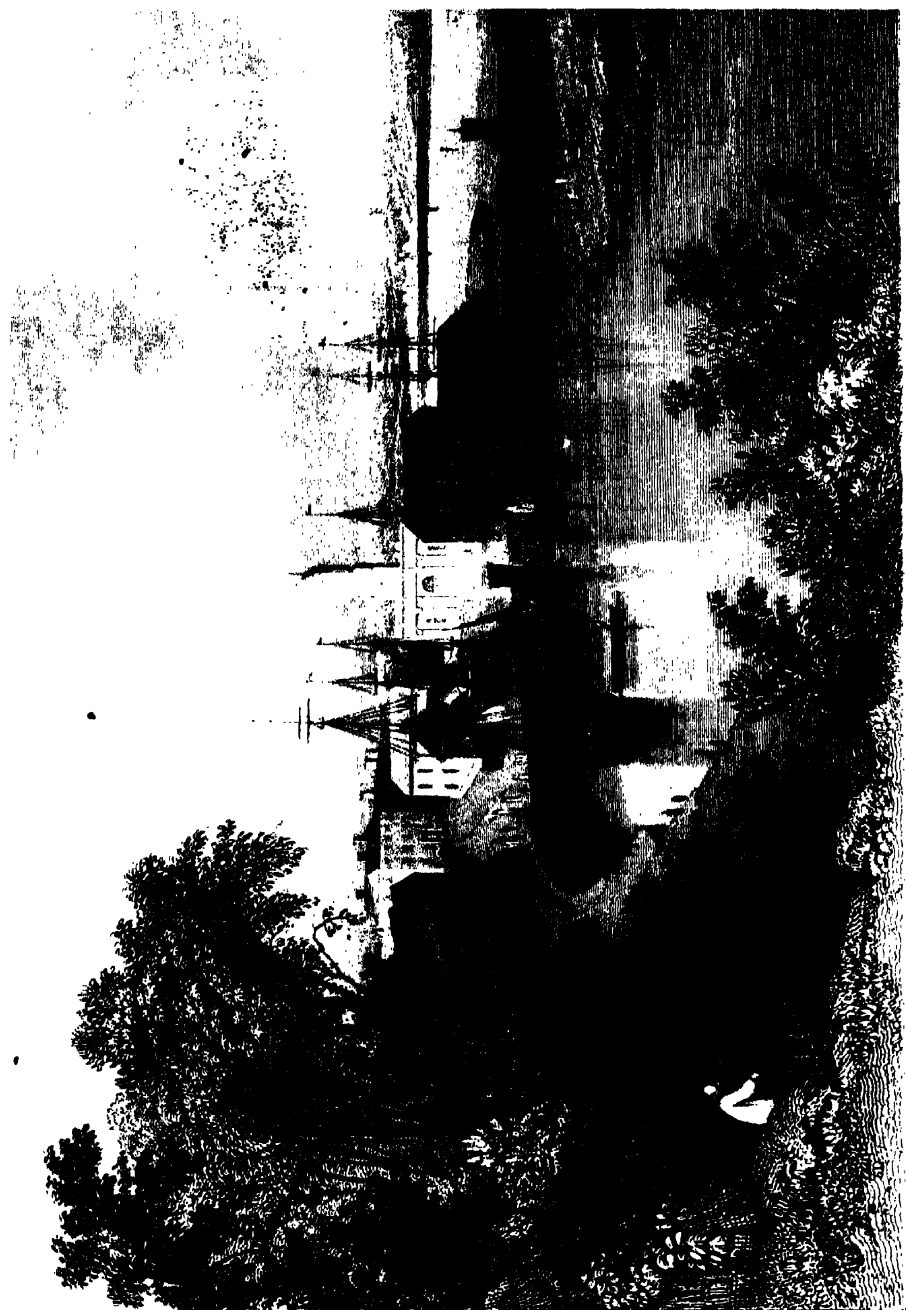
Frowick
hall.

Frodewick, or Frowick-hall, is reckoned a manor, which seems to have been a village called Forowica, at the time of the survey, and belonged to earl Eustace; and afterwards to a family who took their surname, de Frowick, from it. John de Frothewyke, or Frowick, died here in 1312, holding this and other estates of the heirs of Ralph de St. Osyth. Lawrence was his son, whose heirs held a knight's fee in Chiche Ridell, in 1343, under Henry de Ferrers. Sir John de St. Clere held this manor in 1493, of sir John de Bouchier, lord Ferrers, of Groby; and sir John St. Clere held Frodewick, with a tenement called Fenhouse, in the parish of Chich, of William Parr, marquis of Northampton, who had married Anne, daughter and heiress of Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex. This estate is now divided into Great and Little Frowick hall.

Great
Frowick
hall.

Great Frowick hall is about a mile and a half north from the church, and the north

* He died in 1558, and was succeeded by his son, Brian Darcy, esq., who held this, with St. Clere's Wic, and other estates, at the time of his death in 1587. His wife was Bridget, one of the daughters of John Corbet, esq., of Sprowston, in Norfolk; by her he had John, Robert, Jane, and Penelope; of whom the three last died without offspring, and, with their father, are buried in this church. John Darcy, esq., the eldest son, was a sergeant-at-law, and died in 1638; his wife was Dorothy, daughter of Thomas Audley, esq., of Bere-Church, by whom he had Brian, who died young; and Thomas, who also died before his father, in 1632, having married Mary, daughter of sir Andrew Astley, of Writtle, knt., by whom he had Mary, Thomas, and Posthumous, created a baronet in 1660; who had by his first wife, Cicely, daughter of sir Symond D'elves, Anne, who died young: and by Jane, his second wife, daughter and heiress of Robert Cole, he had Robert, who did not attain maturity; Thomas, Brian, William, John, and Elizabeth.



chapel, in the chancel, is appropriated to it. It was for some time in the possession of a family named Thwaytes, and afterwards became successively the property of the families of Spilman, Harlow, Berney, and Daines, or Denes.

Little Frowick hall is not far distant from the other manor-house; the estate formerly belonged to Thomas Green, of East Thorp, and to Mr. John Baker.

The church is a large and stately building, having a nave, and lofty north and south aisles, and a chancel, with a north aisle or chapel; in the tower there are five bells. It is dedicated to St. Mary, St. Peter, and St. Paul; the king's arms which ornament the chancel, in elegant and costly workmanship of gold and silver, on crimson damask silk, was the gift of the earl of Rochford.*

This church was given, with the manor, by Richard de Belmeis, to the monastery here; and the tithes being appropriated to that house, they served the cure by one of their own canons; and, since the suppression, it has been a donative, or perpetual curacy.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to one thousand four hundred and fourteen; and in 1831, to one thousand five hundred and eighty-three.

MISTLEY AND MANNINGTREE.

This parish occupies the most pleasant part of the hundred, having Ardleigh and Lawford on the west; Bromley on the south; on the east, Wix and Bradfield; and

* The founder of the monastery was buried within its walls by the canons, who entombed his remains under a marble monument, with an epitaph, of which the following is a translation:

"Here lieth Richard de Belmeis, surnamed Rufus, bishop of London; a man of probity, and far advanced in years, diligent throughout life: our religious founder, and one that conferred much good on us and the ministers of the church of St. Paul; he died 16 January, 1127; on whose soul the Highest have mercy."

In a niche at the east end of the church, there is a marble monument; with the following inscription:

"Here lies John Darcy, kinsman and freinde to the right hon. Thomas lord Darcy, earl Rivers, a serjeant-at-law, a father to his kindred, and charitable to the poore. He deceased 15 March, in the year of our Lord 1688, in the 71st of his age."

There is also a monument in the wall, to the memory of Briant Darcy, esq., high sheriff of the county of Essex, who died 25 Dec. 1557. Here lies also Bridget his wife. This monument is decayed.

There is likewise a monument for John lord Darcy, baron of Chich, in the county of Essex, who died 25 Feb. 1661, aged fifty-seven; and for Frances his wife; also for Thomas lord Darcy, but the inscription is obliterated. Their statues, in marble, are in the chancel.

There is also a decayed monument, with an inscription to the memory of John lord Darcy, who lived in the time of queen Elizabeth.

John Denes is buried here, with an epitaph; he died 4 Oct. 1704, at the age of seventy-four.

"Bishop Belmeis caused the arm of St. Osyth to be translated to this church with great solemnity, in the presence of William Corbell, or de Corbill, the first prior of this house; archbishop of Canterbury, and other bishops, remitting twenty days' penance to all that come to worship it, and relaxing every year seven days' penance to all that should devoutly come hither to celebrate her festival"—Newcourt's Rep. vol. ii. p. 455.

CHAP.
XXI.

Little
Frowick
hall.

Church.

Mistley
and
Manning-
tree.

Inscrip-
tions.

St. Osyth.

BOOK II. the river Stour northward. Its circumference[•] about nine miles. The land here is mostly a light sandy loam, intermixed with veins of gravel; and the general face of the country, particularly on the banks of the Stour, is rich in cultivation.* The name, in Domesday, is Mistle. There are three manors.

New hall. The manor of Mistle, or Sciddinchou, is what the wife of Henry de Ramis held; the mansion was called Old hall, but the place where it stood is not known; yet it may be supposed to have occupied the site of that which arose from its ruins about two miles south from the church, and which took the name of New hall: both of them appear in records, under these distinct names, as two capital messuages, but neither occur in the *post mortem* inquisitions till the year 1387, when New hall was in the possession of Thomas Hardyng; and in 1414, William, the son of Thomas Hardyng, released New hall, and other possessions, to Joanna de Bohun, countess of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton.

In 1543, in the reign of Henry the eighth, this estate, with the advowson of the church, passed to the crown, where it remained, till king Edward the sixth, in 1552, granted it to sir John Rainsforth, with the manor of Abbots, to hold in socage.

Abbots. The manor of Abbots was so called, because it belonged to the abbey of St. Osyth; it is two miles and a half south from the church. As sir John Rainsforth became possessed, about the same time, of Mistle, Abbots, and Manningtree, they were afterwards mentioned together in the inquisition.

Manningtree. Manningtree, or Manytree, does not occur in Domesday, the name of Sciddinchou being given to this place in that record. In ancient writings it is also named Scidmehau, Sedingho, and Shedham.

Sharing hall. The manor-house, which is on rising ground, a mile from the town, is called Sheddou, or Sharing hall: in the confessor's reign it belonged to Aluric; and at the time of the survey, these lands were holden in demesne, by Adeliza, countess Albemarle, married to Eudo, earl of Campaigne, to whom bishop Odo gave Albemarle in Normandy, and who received from the conqueror the isle and earldom of Holderness.† It was holden of the countess, together with the manor of Godlisford, in Suffolk, by the service of half a knight's fee, and not of the king. Isabel, widow of Hubert de Ruly, held a third part of it in dower; and in 1311, Geoffrey, son of William de Ruly, of Ramsey, released all his right in the manor of Schiddinchou, to the abbey of canon Leigh, in Devonshire: for Maud de Clare, countess of Gloucester and Hereford, having converted that priory into a nunnery, with abbess and nuns, or canonesses, she gave them this, and her manor of Sydyngghan; and in 1319, sir Robert de Insula gave them all the lands and tenements he held in Schidingchou

• Annual average produce per acre; wheat twenty-four, barley thirty-two, oats thirty six, bushels.

† A. Vincent's Discoveries, &c. pp. 1 and 2.

and Manintree.* The nunnery held this estate till 1538, when it was surrendered to the crown.† In 1540, king Henry the eighth granted this manor to sir John Raynsforth, which he held of the queen in capite at the time of his decease in 1559, described as the manor of Manytree, or Chedingho, with appurtenances; and the Crane, the Key, and Key-house; and a chapel of our Lady in the Oates, and the guild or fraternity of Manytree; also the manors of Old hall and New hall, and the rectory of Mistley: he held also the manor of Abbots, or Edlyns, of the queen, by fealty only in free socage. Sir John married, first, the daughter and heiress of Edward Knivet; and his second wife was Winifred, daughter and heiress of John Pyme, but he had no surviving offspring by either, so that his heirs were sir Christopher Edmonds, John Goodwin, and Anne, wife of Henry Josselyn, the descendants of his mother's sister, Elizabeth, daughter of sir Humphrey Starkey. These estates remained the property of different branches of this family, till they passed into the possession of John Barker, esq., whose son Robert sold them to Paul viscount Bayning, who, at the time of his decease, in 1629, held the manor of Sheddingehou and Manningtree of the king, by the tenth part of a knight's fee; and the manors of Old hall and New hall, with advowson of the church, by the fortieth part of a knight's fee; likewise the manor of Abbots, in this parish. His son, Paul viscount Bayning, died in 1638, leaving only two daughters to inherit his very large estates. Penelope was twice married, yet left no surviving offspring on her death, in 1657: but Anne, the eldest, was married to Aubrey de Vere, the twentieth and last earl of Oxford of that honourable and most ancient family. He also died without issue. About the year 1680, having sold the reversion of this and other possessions to Edward Rigby, esq., William Peck, esq., Mrs. Pierpoint, and others; who, on the earl's decease, in 1703, obtained an Act of Parliament to settle the division of these estates, when this was allotted to Edward Rigby, esq.; whose son Richard married Mrs. Anne Perry, by whom he had Richard, Anne, and Martha, wife of col. John Hale. Mr. Rigby died in 1730, and his widow, Anne, in 1741. The right hon. Richard Rigby, privy-counsellor in England; and in Ireland, privy-counsellor, master of the rolls, and vice-treasurer, was their son. He had in this parish New hall, White hall, Abbotts farm, Fords, and Dikeley hall.

Dikeley hall is about a mile and a half south from the church. It was in the possession of Alestan, a Saxon, before the conquest; and at the time of the survey, had become the property of Robert Gernon, who, being lord of Stansted-Montfichet, this estate was therefore holden of that barony, and came with it to the de Vere family. Norman de Dikeley, who was a benefactor to St. Osyth's monastery,‡ took his

* Tanner's Notitia Monast. p. 93.

† Burnet's Hist. of Reformat. Collect. of Records, p. 146.

‡ Cartulary of St. Osyth's abbey.

BOOK II. surname from this place, which passed afterwards, with the manor of New hall, to Thomas Hardyng, from whom it was named Hardynghes.* Dikeley hall and Dikeley-wood were in possession of the Rayning family in 1629 and 1638, and passed, as the other estates here did, to the last of the de Vere family; of whom the reversion was purchased by Edward Peck, esq., and became the property of his son William, and of his grandson, William Peck. Afterwards it went to the right hon. Richard Rigby.

Mistley
hall.

Mistley hall, the residence of the Rigby family, is considered to be not inferior to any seat in this part of the county, in beauty and attractiveness; this handsome mansion is on an elevation, within a fine well-wooded park; the grounds, of varied and uneven surface, gently sloping down toward the Stour, which is here two miles across at high water; and this animating prospect terminates with the highly cultivated lands bordering the opposite banks of the river. In the foreground of this picture, the handsome and lively adjoining village adds considerably to the beauty of the scene. On the decease of lieutenant-colonel Rigby, the Mistley and other family estates descended to lord Rivers, in right of his lady, the daughter and heiress of John Pitt, clerk of the exchequer in the time of queen Elizabeth.†

Mistley
village.

The village of Mistley is pleasantly situated on the banks of the river Stour, eleven miles west from Harwich, and about half a mile distant from Manningtree. This place owes its beauty and importance to the right hon. R. Rigby, esq., who built about fifty of the best and handsomest of the original houses, with several granaries, warehouses, and a large malting house, with quays and coal-yards.‡

The petty sessions for this division of Tendring are holden here on Monday, every five weeks, alternately with Thorpe, Great Bromley, and Manningtree; when overseers, surveyors, and constables, are appointed; and a court baron, by the lords of the manors of Mistley and Manningtree, meets annually. The court-leet formerly holden here is discontinued.

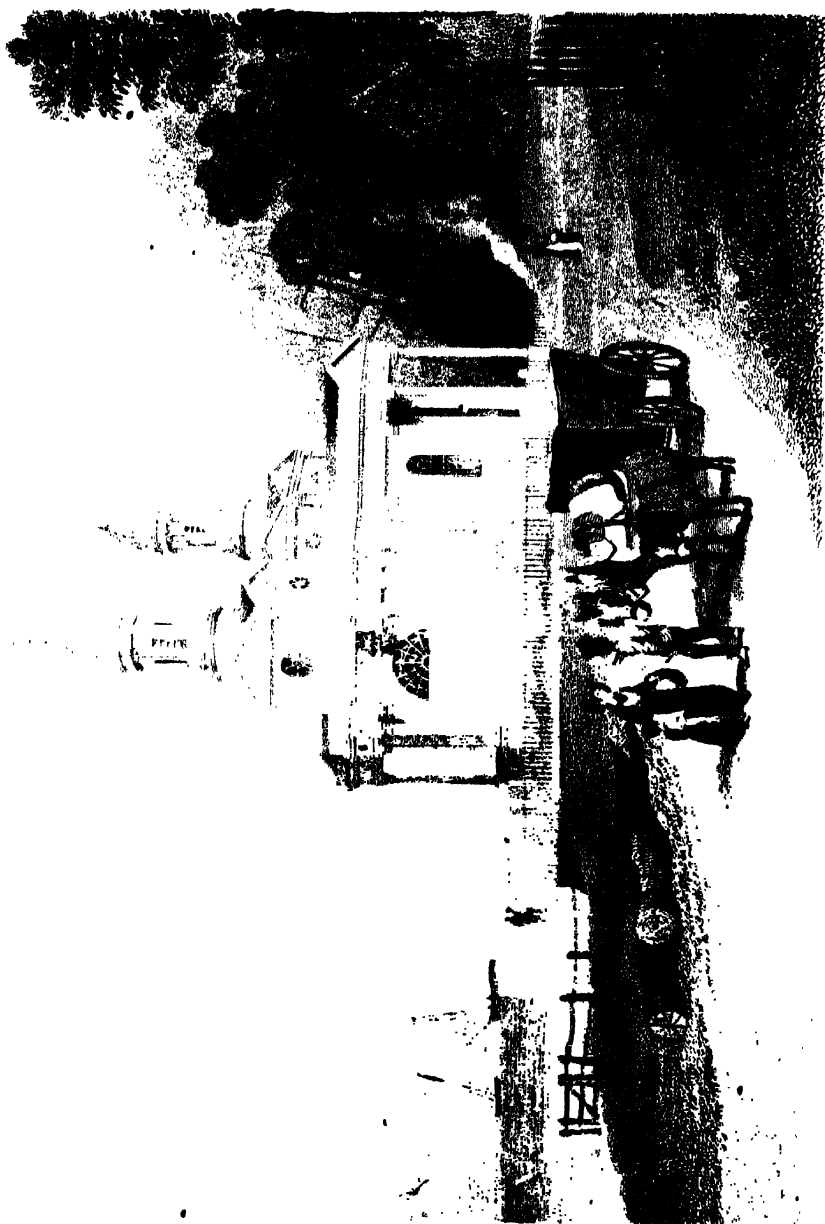
* Rental of knights' fees belonging to the honour of Castle Hedingham, in the time of Henry VI.

† George, the second lord Rivers, succeeded his father in 1803: he was a lord of the bedchamber, born in 1751, and died, unmarried, in 1828. He was succeeded in the barony of Rivers, of Sudley Castle, pursuant to the limitation of the patent of 1802, by his nephew, William Horace Beckford, the third lord, who took the name of Pitt Rivers, instead of that of Beckford, by royal sign manual, in 1828: and, by the same license, such of his issue male as should succeed to the Pitt estates, were authorized to take the name of Pitt Rivers, and his issue generally to take the surname of Rivers only. Lord Rivers, in 1808, married Frances, only daughter and heiress of lieutenant-col. Rigby, of Mistley-hall, in Essex, and had issue Fanny, George, present lord, Horace, Harriet, Elizabeth. His lordship was accidentally drowned in the Serpentine river, in 1831; and was succeeded by his eldest son, George, present and fourth lord.

Arms of Rivers: Sable, a fess chequy or and azure, between three bezants. Crest: A heron close, argent, supporters. Dexter, a falcon or, wings inverted. Sinister, an unicorn argent.

‡ A fair is held, by permission only, on Mistley green on the 8th and 9th of August, yearly: but an injunction was publicly given by the trustees of the late Francis Hall Rigby, esq., that no booth or stall will be allowed for the sale of beer in or upon Mistley green, or manor.







The new church was erected by Mr. Rigby, and consecrated by the bishop of London in 1735. This handsome edifice has since undergone very considerable alteration, and much of it has been rebuilt from designs by Adams.

CHAP.
XXI.

Churches.

The old church, dedicated to St. Mary, was nearly a mile south-east from this new erection; its remains, and the burying-ground belonging to it, including a vault for the use of the Rigby family, with a portico over it, is preserved by an inclosure.*

Manningtree is a small irregularly built town, and only a hamlet to Mistley; yet it contains some good houses, and has the privilege of a market. There are places for public worship here belonging to the Independents, Baptists, and Wesleyan Methodists; and a national school for youth of both sexes, supported by voluntary subscription.

Manning-
tree.

This town is on the banks of the Stour, which was made navigable to the town of Sudbury in Suffolk in 1706. The inhabitants, in conjunction with Mistley, carry on a considerable trade in the importation of deals, corn, coals, iron, and fish; and the malting business is extensively practised. The market is on Thursday,† for corn and cattle, and there is a fair on Thursday in Whitsun-week: distant from Harwich twelve, and from London sixty-one miles.

The ancient church, or chapel, occupied rising ground not far distant from the present edifice, which was built out of its ruins in the year 1616; and consists of a nave and two aisles, supported by pillars of large dimensions. In the old church there used formerly to be a guild, or fraternity, called Trinity guild; and in the certificate of chantry lands this chapel is said to be one mile and a quarter distant from the parish church. There has lately been an enlargement of this chapel by the addition of three hundred and forty-five free sittings, towards the expense of which the Society for the Encouragement of Building Churches and Chapels contributed four hundred and fifty pounds.

Church.

The population of Mistley in 1821 amounted to seven hundred and seventy-eight, and to eight hundred and seventy-six in 1831.

Manningtree in 1821 contained one thousand two hundred and sixty-five inhabitants, and only one thousand two hundred and thirty-seven in 1831.

* A liberal charitable donation was made to this parish by Richard Rigby, esq. in his will and codicil, dated August 16, 1730, by which he bequeaths to the poor six alms houses, for six persons, who are to receive annually six chaldrons of coals, twenty-four bushels of wheat, and twenty-four bushels of barley, or malt.

Charity.

† Anciently, the market was on Monday.

BOOK II.

BRADFIELD.

Bradfield.

The northern boundary of this parish is the river Stour, and it lies eastward from Mistley. The name, in Domesday, Bradfelda, and in the Saxon Bradfield, had probably been applied to the first piece of arable or pasture ground, of ample dimensions, cleared from the forest, in this district. It is seven miles in circumference; distant from Colchester twelve miles, and from London sixty-four. There is a fair on the last Monday in July. The greater part of the lands of this parish rise from the marshes to a considerable height, the soil belonging to the class of fine impalpable fertile loams, equal to the best in the kingdom.

In the time of the Confessor, a Saxon, named Aluric Camp, was the proprietor of this parish, which, at the survey, had been given by the Conqueror to Roger de Ramis and Roger Pictaviensis. There are two manors.

Bradfield hall.

Bradfield hall manor occupies the upper part of the parish, and in records is also named Ouer hall and Franke hall; the mansion, formerly an extensive building, is about three quarters of a mile south-west from the church. After Roger de Ramis, the next recorded possessor was in 1312, at which time William Franke, or Franks, the elder, of Harwich, granted his manor of Bradfield to John de Brokesbourne, and Joane his wife, who was either daughter, or nearly related to the said Franke. The family of Brokesbourne derived their name from the place so called in the parish of Wix. Robert, the son of John de Brokesbourne, succeeded his father in 1342, and in 1343 gave this estate to his mother, himself having apparently died without issue; and his mother dying in 1384, and having become the wife of sir John de Sutton, her next heir was found to be her son Edmund de Brokesbourne, who married Idonea Lovey, to whom king Richard the second, in 1396, confirmed the grant of free-warren made to John de Brokesbourne in 1312, in all their lands in Bradfield, Mistley, Wrabness, Ramsey, Dover Court, Wix, Brokesbourne, and Tendring. She was married to John Glevant; and her third husband was Bartholomew lord Bouchier. On her death, in 1409, she left, by her second husband, Edmund Brokesbourne, a daughter named Alianor, who was married first to John Fitz-Raufe, esq., and afterwards to sir William Rainsford, to whom she brought this estate. It continued some time in this family, and was at length divided among their coheirs. In 1568, William Waldegrave was lord of this manor, from whom it passed to the Grimston family. It now belongs to lord viscount Grimston!*

* Arms of Grimston:—Quarterly: first and fourth argent, on a fess sable, three mullets, of six points, or; in the dexter chief point an ermine spot sable.—Grimston: second sable, a fess dancette, between two leopards' faces, or.—Luckin: third argent, a chevron gules, between three bucks' heads caboshed, sable attired, or.—Forrester: Crest: a stag's head couped at the neck, proper attired, or: supporters, dexter, a stag regardant proper; sinister, a griffin regardant, wings inverted, or.

Nether hall does not appear to have been mentioned as a manor: it is by the side of the water, in the lowest part of the parish, about half a mile, north from the church.

Bradfield Manestune, or Manston, is a hamlet, by the side of the river; it is also called Mountherd, and Jakes or Jack's hall. There was formerly a chapel here, dedicated to the Virgin Mary, and named the Chapel of our Lady in the Oates. The house is about a mile north-east from the church, and near the river. Alfein was the name of the possessor of this estate previous to the Conquest; it afterwards belonged to Roger de Ramis, who, in the reign of Henry the second, conveyed it to Aubrey de Vere, earl of Oxford.* Part of it had previously belonged to Ralph Fitz-Adam; next, to Philip de St. Osyth, who passed it to John, son of Vincent de Kirby; and he granted it to Robert, earl of Oxford, paying to the chief lords all due services, and to himself a clove gilly-flower. Richard, Robert, and Gilbert de Kirby, and John de Westwick, held it under the earls of Oxford, and it continued in that noble family till the partition of their estates on the death of the last earl.

Nether
hall.
Bradfield
Manes-
tune.

The church is a small ancient building, pleasantly situated near the road to Wix, Church. Wrabness, and Ramsey. Some parts of this building are in the perpendicular style, and some of an age before the prevalence of that mode of building.* In 1253, it was given by William de Ramis to the prior and convent of St. Bartholomew in Smithfield, to whom the great tithes were appropriated, and a vicarage ordained here, which continued in their gift till the suppression of monasteries. The prior and convent had here sixteen messuages, and one hundred and eleven acres of arable lands, which were holden by their tenants in villenage.

One messuage, several parcels of land, and a wood, belonged to the church. The prior and convent had view of frank-pledge of all their tenants, who came upon summons to the court, next after Michaelmas, and collected among themselves, and paid two shillings to the ward of Colchester castle: hence the rectory or parsonage was called a manor.†

This church is endowed with two hundred pounds royal bounty, and two hundred pounds private benefaction.

* In the church there is an inscription to the memory of Joane, the wife of Edward Grimston, esq., the first of that family who came to reside at Bradfield hall; she was the daughter and coheirress of Thomas Rysby, of Lavenham, in Suffolk, and died January 23, 1604. Also, in the chancel, lieth buried sir Harbottle Grimston, son and heir of the above Edward, and Joane his wife. He was elected knight of the shire for Essex in king Charles the first's reign, and married Elizabeth, daughter of Ralph Copen-
penger, esq., sister to his brother Henry's wife, and had by her Edward, Harbottle, Henry, Thomas, William, and Elizabeth, married to Christopher Harrys, of Shensfield, in Margaretting, esq. He departed this life 19 Feb. 1647, in the seventieth year of his age.—Here also lieth buried Elizabeth his wife, who died 12 Dec. 1649, aged seventy years.

Inscrip-
tions.

† The governors of the Dedham charity have a farm belonging to the school at Dedham, partly in this parish, and partly in Wrabness. Charity.

BOOK II. In 1821 the population of this parish amounted to eight hundred and twenty-two, and to nine hundred and sixty-four in 1831.

WIX, OR WICKS.

Wix. This parish lies east and south from Bradfield, and is eight miles in circumference: the ground generally high, and the soil possessing all the excellent qualities which distinguish this rich and fertile district.

In records the name is written Wica, Wics, Wikes, Wixe; in Saxon, pic, a village, castle, farm, or dairy. Wix is seven miles distant from Harwich, and sixty-four from London. A fair is held here on the eighteenth of September. There are four manors.

Park hall. Wikes, or Park hall, in the Confessor's reign belonged to queen Edeva; and at the survey, was in the possession of Walter the Deacon, whose two sons were surnamed Mascherell and Alexander, the latter of whom assumed the style de Waham, or Wix; he had a daughter named Editha. Alexander having no offspring by his wife Ælia, granted the lands of his own acquiring in Wix and in other parts of Tendring, to Ralph, son of William, son of Robert; for which his lord, William, son of Robert, and father of Ralph, gave him thirty marks of silver, and one saddle-horse. This Walter was ancestor of the noble family surnamed de Hastings, lords of the barony of Hastings, which consisted of ten knights' fees, one of which lay in Wix, and for which Robert de Hastings paid to the scutage of Normandy, in 1206.* The succession of this family of Hastings appears from the record to have been—Robert; Alexander, whose wife was named Adeliza; Ralph; Robert; William, who had three sons, Robert, Ralph, and John.†

Little Easton was the head of their barony, which was conveyed to Godfrey de Lovain, by marriage with Delicia, daughter and heiress of Robert de Hastings, and of this manor as part of it. Godfrey was succeeded by his son, Matthew de Lovain, living in the year 1262; whose son, Matthew, was father of Thomas; on whose death, in 1345, he was succeeded by his son John; whose daughter, Alianore, was his sole surviving heiress in 1359, and conveyed her large inheritance to her husband, sir William Bouchier, in 1365; and the great families of Basset, le Despenser, and Bohun, had successively possession under the families of Lovain and Bouchier.

Humphrey de Bohun, earl of Hereford, Essex, and Northampton, had this estate in 1372; he left two daughters coheiresses: Elianor, married to Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester; and Mary, to Henry, earl of Derby, afterwards king Henry the fourth. On the partition of the Bohun estates between king Henry the fifth, the son of Mary, and Anne, daughter and heiress of Elianor, Anne had this for

* From a MS. of Sir Richard St. George.

Idem.

part of her share, with a park; from which, it is supposed, the mansion, about a mile west from the church, was named Park hall. By marriage with Anne, the noble family of the earls of Stafford became possessed of this manor; but Humphrey Stafford, duke of Buckingham, being slain at the battle of Northampton in 1460, fighting against king Edward the fourth, his possessions were forfeited; and in 1483, king Richard the third, among other estates, granted this to Henry Stafford, duke of Buckingham, cousin of Humphrey Bohun, earl of Hereford. But on his being beheaded, all his estates went to the crown;* and in 1595, queen Elizabeth granted the park of Wix, with appertenances, to Gilly Merick, to hold by fealty of the castle of Colchester.

John Philipson, esq., of Harwich, was the next proprietor of this estate: he was commissary to the packet-boats, and married, first, Rachel, daughter of Robert Lane; and, secondly, Grace, daughter of Kendrick Edisbury, esq. On his death, in 1742, he was succeeded by John Philipson, his son and heir, who was elected one of the burgesses in Parliament for Harwich in 1741-6, and 1753, and died in 1756.† His only daughter and heiress, Susanna, by his wife, Susanna, daughter of Richard Burton, esq., commissioner of the navy, was married to Robert Bristow, esq. This estate now belongs to Nathaniel Garland, esq.

Carbonels is a manor which seems to have been separated from the capital manor: the house is near the church. The family of Carbonel, from whom the place derived its name, held this estate from 1280 to 1301. Afterwards, it went to the Mannock family. In 1476, it was holden, with other lands, of Elizabeth, queen of king Edward the fourth, by John Mannock, esq., whose descendants retained this possession till, on the decease of sir William Mannock, in 1713, his son, sir Francis, of Gifford's hall, sold it to John Philipson of Harwich; from whom, with other estates, it descended to Robert Bristow, esq.

Carbonels.

The manor of Hamstall formed part of what belonged to queen Edeva, and belonged to Hugh de Montford, and his under-tenant, Roger, at the time of the survey. The lord paramount of this manor was sir John de Sutton, in 1366: it was conveyed by marriage to lord Bouchier; and afterwards passed to the Pirton family, of Little Bentley, who sold it to the Baynings. It next passed to the earls of Oxford, of whom the reversion was purchased by Edward Peck, esq., whose descendant, William Peck, esq., sold it, in 1703, to Samuel Reynolds, esq. of whom it was purchased by the rev. William Samuel Powell, D. D.

Hamstall.

The Nunnery, which was not far distant from Wix hall, in a field where some remains of the moats by which it was surrounded may yet be traced, was of the

Nunnery.

* Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. pp. 168, 169.

† Arms of Philipson:—A Chevron, ermine, between three batts, displayed. Crest:—On a helmet closed, a camel's head couped, in his mouth an oaken branch, bearing three acorns.

BOOK II. Benedictine order, and dedicated to the Virgin Mary: it was founded in the reign of king Henry the first, by the sons of Walter the Deacon, and Editha their sister; it was endowed with ample possessions by the founders and successive benefactors. In 1525, Cardinal Wolsey having obtained the Pope's bull for dissolving the lesser monasteries, for the endowment of his colleges of Oxford and Ipswich, this house was the same year surrendered to the cardinal by Mary, the abbess, and, with the king's authority, was settled on Cardinal college, in Oxford; and in 1527, Dr. Higgons, the master of the college, conveyed it to Cardinal college, Ipswich. But in 1528, upon Wolsey's fall, this estate became vested in the crown; and in 1530, the site of the manor of Wix was granted to sir Adam Fortescue; from whom it passed, in 1561, to Edward Gilbert, and Alice his wife; who conveyed it, in 1561, to William and Robert Vesey. William, the son of Robert Vesey, at the time of his decease, in 1577, held this manor. His son and heir, by his wife, Joanna, daughter of William Cardinall, of Great Bromley, was William; who was followed in this possession by Robert and William Vesey. It was purchased of the family of Vesey by — Warner, esq., and descended to his three daughters, coheiresses: Catharine, married to Henry Vere Graham, esq.; Eleonora, to sir William Bunbury, bart.: and Anne, to Humphrey Hanmer, esq.

Church.

The ancient church, dedicated to St. Michael, was given to the nunnery by the founders; to whom, also, the whole of the tithes of the parish being appropriated, they employed a stipendiary curate, whose salary, at a future period, proving too small for his support, the church remained unoccupied, and becoming ruinous, fell down. It was a plain building, tiled, and had a steeple at the east end. In 1719 the living was augmented by two hundred pounds from queen Anne's bounty, and the same sum was also raised by subscription. A small church was also erected, chiefly out of the ruins of the old one, by a subscription among the clergy and gentry.

In 1821 the parish of Wix contained eight hundred and eighteen, and in 1831 eight hundred and thirty-two, inhabitants.

TENDRING.

Tendring.

This pleasant and extensive parish occupies high ground nearly in the centre of the hundred to which it has given its name, of undoubted Saxon origin; in Domesday, and other records, written Tedring, and Tendring. A large portion of the parish is light turnip land; but in some parts, especially toward Bradfield, the soil becomes strong and heavy. It is about ten miles in circumference: distant south-east from Colchester ten, and from London sixty-one miles. It has an annual fair on the fourteenth of September.

Æctriode, Frumin, Aluuard, and Olive, were the possessors of these lands in the time of Edward the Confessor: at the survey they had become the property of

Eustace, earl of Bolougne, the bishop of London, and Ralph Peverel. They were afterwards divided into five manors. CHAP.
XXI.

Old hall manor house is north-west from the church. This estate is what belonged to earl Eustace, whose granddaughter and heiress, Maud, conveyed it by marriage to king Stephen. Oger de Curton held lands here in the reigns of Henry the second and king John; and sir Andrew le Blund, by a deed without date, conveyed this manor to his daughter and heiress, Catharine, married to sir Richard Battaile, lord of Wivenhoe; whose daughter Margery, married to sir William de Sutton in 1298, had this estate for her purparty. Their son and heir, sir John, was living in 1366; John and Richard de Sutton were his sons. Sir John, the eldest son, was succeeded by his brother, sir Richard de Sutton, in 1393; and Thomas, his son, appears to have been the last of the family who held this estate; after whom the next possessor mentioned was John Doreward, esq., who, in consideration of acquitting king Henry the fourth of two hundred marks his majesty owed to him, had license granted to present the manor of Tendring hall to the abbey of St. John Baptist in Colchester; but not fulfilling this intention during his lifetime, the grant became void; and his son, John Doreward, founding a hospital at Bocking in 1438, endowed it with the manor of Tendring. Old hall.

Afterwards, the Pirtons, Arblasters, Wentworths, and Drurys, held this manor. William Drury, esq., the purchaser of this estate, lived at Bretts hall; he was LL.D. judge of the prerogative court, and master in chancery. After remaining in this family till the year 1691,* Robert Drury, who lived here, left it by will to James Clarkson, esq.; whose only daughter and heiress, Elizabeth, by his wife Mary, daughter of William Beriff, of Meverons in Frating, conveyed it to her husband, Henry Wale, esq. of Little Bardfield; their two sons were James and Henry, successively owners of this estate. Now belongs to Mr. Robert Hardy.

Gernons occurs in records as a manor in Tendring, but where it was situated is not known. It took its name from the Gernon family, to which it had belonged. It is mentioned as being in the possession of John de Sutton, in 1393: in 1512, to John de Vere, the thirteenth earl of Oxford, who held it of William Pirton, esq. From 1560 to 1569, it went along with Old hall; and was afterwards divided between the coheirs of Arblaster, part coming into the Wentworth, and part into the Drury family. Paul viscount Bayning, in 1629, had possessions here; and it is believed that the whole of what went by the name of Gernons became incorporated into some of the other manors, or is one of those estates in this parish which have had various names. Gernons.

About half a mile south from the church, is the manor-house of Bretts hall. The Bretts
hall.

* Arms of Drury:—Argent, a chevron, vert, two molets, or, pierced gules. Crest: A greyhound courant, argent, a mullet, purple.

BOOK II. Arblasters held this manor in 1560 and 1565; and it was afterwards conveyed to the Drury family, and to the Bowes of Great Bromley, of whom Thomas Bowes, esq., the last male heir of this family, dying without issue, it descended to his sister Bridget, widow of Read Grimston.

New hall. New hall is reckoned the chief manor in this parish, though its name seems to indicate its more recent original; it consists of lands which before the Conquest belonged to Alnuard, and formed part of the bishop of London's fee at the survey. The de Groos held it as early as 1366; and in 1395, it had passed into the possession of sir Richard de Sutton; from whose family it was conveyed to the Bouchiers, to the Pirtons, and the Cardinalls, a branch of which had formerly possession of Great Bromley. Clarkson Cardinall sold it to Charles Gray, esq., lord of the hundred of Tendring. The demesnes had been some time before separated from the manor, and successively in possession of John Philipson and Robert Bristow, esquires.

In 1725, James Clarkson, esq. of Tendring hall, left by will the manor of New hall, and two farms, named Homestalls and Postels, to his cousin, John Cardinall, whose grandson, Clarkson Cardinall, esq., in 1762, sold the manor of New hall to Charles Gray, esq. of Colchester; who, in 1775, sold it to the right hon. Richard Rigby, esq. of Mistley hall; whose executors sold it in chancery, in 1802, to Clarkson Cardinall, esq., who died in 1825, aged ninety-five, and left this estate by will to his son, John Cardinall, esq., the present possessor.

Harestills. Harestills, or Hanham hall, is a manor supposed to consist of the lands belonging to Ralph Peverel at the time of the survey. The account of its subsequent owners is very imperfect. The Hanham family retained possession till a son of Robert Hanham died without issue, having sold and spent the whole of his patrimony.* This estate afterwards went to the Pyrton family, and to that of Fox.

Walfes. Walfes is an estate sometimes called a *manor*; the house is about a mile north from the church. It formed part of the possessions of St. John's abbey in Colchester; and after the suppression, was granted by queen Elizabeth to Edward, lord Clinton and Saye. Afterwards, it became the property of sir Robert Smith, of Berechurch, bart.

* Of the family from whom it has been named we have the following account: Sir John Hanham, knight of the Holy Sepulchre, married Katharine, second daughter and coheir of Sir Robert Mortimer, by Elizabeth, second daughter of John Howard, duke of Norfolk, and had by her sir John Hanham, of Essex, whose son and heir was Peter Hankam, living in 1489; and Edward, who married Agnes, daughter and heiress of Nicholas Reeve, of Hitcham in Suffolk, gentleman usher and carver to the last abbot of Bury. The offspring of this connexion was Robert Hanham, of Hitcham, where his posterity were seated: a branch of this family had this estate, of whom Peter, the maiden name of whose wife was Rookwood, left a son and heir, who died without offspring.

Arms of Hanham:—Quarterly, or and gules, a chevron sable between three crozlets fitché, argent, with a mullet.

Mitchells, **Pilcocks**, and **Brockets**, are the names of estates in this parish.

The **church**, dedicated to St. Edmund, is on elevated ground, rising from the south, toward which there is a very agreeable and extensive prospect. It is an ancient building, with a wooden turret.*

Tendring rectory has a glebe of eighty acres. The rev. William Bree, when **rector**, rebuilt the parsonage house, which is about a mile north from the church. There is also another house belonging to the living, which has been improved by several incumbents.

In 1821, the population of this parish amounted to seven hundred; and in 1831, to seven hundred and fifty-eight.

WEELEY, OR WILEY.

The parish of Weeley is bounded on the south by St. Osyth, and northward by Tendring. It is eight miles in circumference; distant from Colchester ten miles; and from London sixty-one. The name is written in records **Wilei**, **Wigley**, **Wilege**, **Wykeigh**; the first syllable believed to be from the Saxon, **þiga**, a hero, a nobleman; or, **þig**, a battle; probably commemorative of some great battle fought here. The soil is of a temperament neither too heavy nor too light.

Weeley,
or Wiley.

Earl Godwin held these lands in the Confessor's reign; and at the time of the survey they belonged to Eudo Dapifer. They were afterwards formed into two manors.

The manor-house of Weeley hall is near the church, on an eminence, which in every direction enjoys widely extended prospects. Eudo Dapifer gave this manor to St. John's abbey, in Colchester,† which retained possession of it till the suppression; and it was granted to Thomas lord Cromwell in 1539, but returned to the crown on his attainder.

Weeley
hall.

In 1553, king Edward the sixth granted the manor and park of Weeley, and tene-ments called **Maykins** and **Brookes**, to Thomas lord Darcy, whose successor was his son John lord Darcy, whose son Thomas lord Darcy was created viscount Colchester, and earl Rivers; on whose death without issue male, it was sold to William Weeley, esq., son of Thomas and grandson of Richard Weeley, of London. He married Martha, daughter and co-heiress of Jolliffe Loundes, apothecary to king Charles the first, and had by her, Thomas, his son and successor, besides many other children. Thomas Weeley, esq. was educated at Hart hall, in Oxford, and the Inner Temple, London. His son and successor was Edward Weeley,‡ esq. of the Inner

There is an ancient monument in the church, to the memory of sir John Drury, but the inscription is defaced.

Monu-
ment.

† Monast. Angl. vol. ii.

‡ Arms of Weeley: Or, a bend between two mullets, sable. Crest: On a helmet and chapeau, a cockatrice, argent, comb, wattles, beak and legs, or.

BOOK II. Temple, who, having no issue, left this estate, by will, to Samuel Weeley, esq. succeeded, in 1743, by his son and heir, of the same name: it now belongs to John Weeley, esq. whose name was previously March, but who assumed the name of Weeley in pursuance of the directions contained in the will of Samuel Weeley.

The lodge. The lodge, about half a mile south-east from the church, belongs to this estate.

Crustwic. Crustwic has the manor-house, about a mile south-west from the church; it has received the names of Catridge, Custard, Custridge, and Guttridge hall; which is holden of the manor of Great Bentley, and now belongs to sir John Rowley, bart. of Tendring hall, in Suffolk. The family of de Stauntons held this manor formerly; and from 1580 it belonged to the Cokes, of Norfolk, many years. Robert Coke, esq. of Holkham, married the lady Anne, second daughter of Thomas Osborne, earl of Danby, and duke of Leeds. She was remarried to Horatio Walpole, esq. but died without issue in 1722; when this estate, being vested in her, was sold to William Field, esq. who married Arabella, daughter of earl Rivers, by whom he had Richard, an officer; William, of the Inner Temple, esq., and Elizabeth, wife of sir Richard Lloyd, knt. one of the barons of the exchequer. His successor in this estate was his son, Richard Lloyd, esq.

Church The church is on the same pleasant eminence on which Weeley hall is situated. It is dedicated to St. Andrew, and is a plain building. The tower is built of remarkably large bricks, and is embattled. In the interior this church is handsomely ceiled, and paved with square stones; and there is an oak pulpit, of excellent workmanship. It has a glebe of seven acres and two roods, belonging to the rectory.

The removal of barracks sometime ago established here, considerably diminished the population, which in 1811 amounted to one thousand and fifty, in 1821 to six hundred and sixty-eight, and in 1831 to five hundred and seventy-three.

LITTLE CLACTON.

Little Clacton. Lands here named in Domesday Clackintuna, and forming part of the revenues of the bishopric of London, before and after the conquest, were not originally separated into two parishes: this partition has been since made, and they are now distinguished by the names of Little and Great Clacton.

The first of these extends southward from Weeley, and is twelve miles in circumference; it lies low, and contains a large proportion of strong heavy land. There are two manors: the village is upon a small green, half a mile west from the church. Distant, thirteen miles from Colchester, and sixty-three from London. There is a fair on the twenty-fifth of July.

Geddy hall. Geddy hall is also named Engains, or Engayne: the house, a modern building. Formerly, this manor belonged to the priory of Thremhall, in Stansted Montfichet, and, after the suppression, was granted to the Cary family; sir John Cary, on his

decease in 1552, was succeeded by his son and heir Wymond Cary, who sold this estate to Henry Golding, after which it went to the Drury family, of Tendring; it afterwards belonged to Edward Webb, esq. of London, and to Robert Baker, from whom it passed to Captain Bagney.

The manor of Bovils is in records also named Devill, and Dovell. This estate formerly belonged to William Hubbard, and afterwards to Samuel Travers, esq. of Great Holland; and became the property of Samuel Holditch, esq. of Witham. Bovils.

Lands, and a messuage called Cooks, in this parish, were holden of the manor of Chiche, by the Arblaster family of Tendring. Cooks.

The church is a small building with a wooden turret.* It was given by Robert de Belneis to his monastery of St. Osyth; to which the great tithes were appropriated, and a vicarage ordained and endowed, which the abbot and canons retained till the suppression. Church

The population of this parish in 1821 amounted to four hundred and ninety-four; and in 1831, to five hundred and forty-six.

GREAT CLACTON.

This parish extends southward from Little Clacton, and along the sea-coast eastward, to Little Holland: it is fifteen miles in circumference: much of the land is light, and not so good as the adjoining parishes, but it possesses a large proportion of the fine strong loam which distinguishes this coast. The distance from Colchester is twelve miles, and from London sixty-three. Great Clacton.

A fair is held here annually, on the twenty-ninth of June. There are four manors.

The mansion of Clacton manor is on the north side of the church, of which the most ancient proprietor was the bishop of London, who held it before the conquest, and at the time of the survey; and in the reign of king Henry the second, Richard de Belmeis, bishop of that see, confirmed it to his successors for ever; but in 1545, bishop Bonner conveyed this manor, in exchange for other possessions, to king Henry the eighth;† and it was afterwards granted to Thomas lord Darcy by king Edward the sixth. This manor now belongs to Frederick Nassau, esq. Clacton manor.

The manor-house of Can hall is a mile west-north-west from the church; it was called Canon hall, or Aula Canonica, because it belonged to the abbot and canons of St. Osyth. This, as well as the manor of Clacton, belonged to the Darcy family, from whom they descended to earl Rivers and to the earl of Rochford; but the demesne lands were the property of colonel John Schutz, who had also other estates Can hall.

* A charitable donation of six pounds a year is distributed to the poor by the churchwardens and Charity overseers: and there is an almshouse for three dwellers.

† Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 152.

BOOK II. in the two Clactons, and in St. Osyth. Can hall now belongs to the widow and family of the late William Broderick, esq. barrister at law.

Aulton park. Aulton park is above a mile south-west from the church, and was inclosed by bishop de Belmeis with a wood, called Edulvesnase, belonging to the canons of St. Paul's. It formerly went with Great Clacton manor; and was granted to Thomas lord Darcy, in 1553, by king Edward the sixth. It afterwards became the property of Samuel Travers, esq. who left it for charitable uses.

Colbayus. The manor of Colbayus was also called Colbrooke, Copt hall, and Copping hall. Very little appears in records respecting this manor. Henry Parker held it of the bishop of London at the time of his decease, in 1541, and his son and successor was named Roger. A messuage called Grays, and another messuage, with lands, were settled, in 1461, on a chantry in St. Paul's cathedral, founded by Thomas Kemp, bishop of London.* St. Osyth's abbey had also possessions in Great and Little Clacton.

Church. The church, dedicated to St. John, is pleasantly situated beside the hall. It is a plain building, tiled. The tower contains six bells, and measures fifty-one feet in height to the battlements, above which there is a spire, shingled. This church was given by bishop Belmeis to the abbot and canons of St. Osyth, to whom the great tithes being appropriated, a vicarage was ordained, which continued in their gift till the suppression of monasteries.

Great Clacton, in 1821, contained one thousand and seventy-five, and in 1831, one thousand one hundred and forty-nine inhabitants.

HOLLAND.

Holland. Lands extending eastward from the Clactons, along the sea-coast, have been named Holland, and divided into two parishes. The name in records, Hoiland, Hoyland, and Holland, is supposed from the Saxon *hol*, hollow; or from the Belgic, or Celtic, *Hoy*, hay and land.†

LITTLE HOLLAND.

Little Holland. This parish is joined to Great Clacton, and lies low, the soil generally light. It is four miles in circumference: distant from Colchester fifteen miles, from London sixty-four.

Lestan, and afterwards Ingelric, were the owners of this parish in the reign of Edward the confessor; which, at the time of the survey, formed part of the possessions of Eustace, earl of Boulogne: and which Adelolf de Merk held under him.

Little Holland hall. There is only one manor, and the mansion house is on the north side of the ruins of the church.

* Dugdale's Hist. of St. Paul's.

† Average annual produce per acre: wheat twenty-two, barley thirty-six, bushels.

The earl of Guisnes held lands here of the honour of Boulogne, in 1210. Fulk Basset, bishop of London, held this manor in the year 1251, and Robert, earl of Guisnes, gave him the homage of Henry de Merk, a descendant of Adelolf, the former Saxon proprietor.

Afterwards it passed to the Batayle or Betaile family. Sir Richard Betaile left two daughters, coheiresses: Margery, married to sir William de Sutton, and Anne, to Peter de Taleworth. This latter had Little Holland for part of her share. Sir Hugh Stafford, lord Bouchier, who died in 1421, held it in right of his wife. It appears to have soon afterwards become the property of the abbey of St. Osyth; but their lands here proving unprofitable by the frequent inundations of the sea, was assigned as a reason of the appropriation of the church of Elmsted to that monastery.*

On the dissolution it went to the crown, and was granted to the Arblaster family; from whom it passed to the Druries, of Tendring, who held it of the queen, as of her manor of Parke hall, in Wix, by the service of a knight's fee, and one pair of hair-skin gloves, doubled or lined, and twopence a year, if demanded.

This estate afterwards became the property of Brian Darcy, esq., of St. Clere's hall, in St. Osyth, and of Tiptree. His great-grandson, sir Thomas Darcy, kept a court here in 1691. His son, sir Thomas, at his decease, left sir George, who died young, and three daughters; Frances, married to sir William Dawes, bart., archbishop of York; Mary, to Richard Boteler, esq.; and Elizabeth, to William Pierpont, esq. Sir William Dawes sold this estate to Nicholas Corsellis, esq. who held a court here in 1711; and who gave it to his daughter Elizabeth, married to captain James Kettle; on whose decease, without issue, it descended to his sister's son, Mr. Patrick Coppinger, who sold it to Mr. Michael Hills, of Colchester; and it now belongs to Robert Hills, esq.

The church was near the hall; but from its exposed situation towards the sea, was beat down by the frequent recurrence of storms. This church belonging to the monastery of St. Osyth, they served the cure by some of their own monks; for there is no record of an institution to it, so that it is a perpetual curacy, the profits of it being annexed to Little Clacton. Church.

The population of this parish in 1821 amounted to seventy-three, and to seventy-six in 1831.

GREAT HOLLAND.

This parish lies north-east from Little Holland, occupying a lower situation on the sea shore; it is nine miles in circumference: distant thirteen miles from Colchester and sixty-four from London. Great Holland.

BOOK II.

The soil of this parish presents several varieties, some of it moist and heavy; yet it is calculated that a fourth part of it is dry enough for turnips: but the strong land is in highest estimation, and the rich pale loam, which distinguishes this part of the country, occurs in tolerable abundance here.*

This, as well as the other portion of the district named Holland, were the property of Lestan in the reign of the Confessor, and are believed to have been undivided at that time; but at the time of the survey, Great Holland was in the possession of Walter de Doai.

There is only one manor; and the mansion-house is on the north side of the church.

Great
Holland
hall

In the reign of king Edward the first, this estate belonged to Robert Burnel, bishop of Bath and Wells, and lord chancellor. His nephew, Philip Burnel, held it, and died immensely rich in 1294. Edward lord Burnel was his son and heir. Sir Nicholas de Handlo, who took the surname of Burnel from his mother, held this manor, which he left to Hugh Burnel, his son and heir, in the year 1382.

It belonged to James Boteler, earl of Wiltshire, attainted of treason in 1461, and, on that event, passed to the crown; and in 1474 was given, by Edward the fourth, to Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, and Isabel his wife, sister to Richard Plantagenet, the king's father. On the earl's death in 1483, he was succeeded by his grandson, Henry Bouchier, earl of Essex, who was killed by a fall from his horse in 1540. In 1551 the estate was granted, by king Edward the sixth, to Thomas lord Darcy, whose son, John lord Darcy, died in possession of it in 1580; and in 1639 it was sold, by Elizabeth, countess Rivers. Some time afterwards it became the property of Joseph Thurston, esq., recorder of Colchester; after whose decease, an act was obtained by his widow, Mary, daughter of sir Isaac Rebow, for the sale of part of his estates; and this was conveyed to Mr. Daniel Bayley, of Colchester, who afterwards sold it to sir Richard Hopkins, of London, from whom it passed to his sister and coheirress Elizabeth Barrow. Afterwards it was purchased by Robert Martin, esq. of Row-edge, whose only daughter, Anne, was married to John Kirby, esq. The demesne lands have been separated from the manor, being purchased by Samuel Travers, esq., member of parliament for New Windsor, and secretary to the prince of Wales, afterwards king George the second. Mr. Travers left this, and also Aulton park, to charitable uses.

The church is dedicated to All Saints; in the tower there are four bells. There is a large glebe belonging to it.

Great Holland, in 1821, contained four hundred and thirteen inhabitants, and four hundred and twenty-five in 1831.

* Average annual produce per acre: wheat twenty-six, barley thirty-six, bushels.

FRINTON

Lies on the sea-coast, and is nine miles in circumference : distant twelve miles from Frinton. Manningtree, and sixty-three from London.

The name of this parish is found written, Frientuna, Fretuna, and Frunting; which last has induced Mr. Norden to conjecture that the name has been applied as descriptive of its situation, on the front or brow of the sea-cliff.

Before the conquest, this parish was in the possession of Harold and Leveson; and at the time of the survey was divided into nearly equal portions, respectively belonging to Geoffrey Magnaville, and to Eustace earl of Boulogne. These two manors were united at an early period, and received the name of the manor of Frinton, or Skyrman's fee, and in the court-rolls said to extend into the parishes of Great and Little Clacton. Frinton hall is half a mile north-east from the church, upon the beach. In the reign of king Henry the second this estate belonged to the Tregoz family, of Tolleshunt-Tregoz, or Darcy; and has since been in possession of various proprietors, among whom were the de Burham, Godmanston, and Grimston families.

The remains of the church are by the sea-side; near which, in a handsome house Church. with gardens, there formerly resided the celebrated Cornelius de Tulbury, who, among other exploits, swallowed considerable quantities of poison without injury. The famous captain Bushell, distinguished for his extraordinary success in fishing for wrecks, is also said to have occupied this mansion. Much of the parish has been swallowed up by the sea. Pyrites used to be gathered in great abundance here for the manufacture of copperas.

The amount of the population of this parish in 1821 was forty-five, and it contained only thirty-five inhabitants in 1831.

THORPE LE SOKEN.

This is the first, or most westernly, of the three contiguous parishes named Thorpe Kirke and Walton, or Walton on the Naze: these constitute a district called the Soken, a name derived from the Saxon Soc, or Soca, signifying a peculiar power, authority, or liberty, to administer justice and execute laws within itself, and likewise the circuit or territory wherein such power is exercised.* These three parishes were so styled, as belonging to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, London, exempt from the archdeacon's jurisdiction, as also from the commissary's.

Thorpe le
Soken.

* There were formerly several other Sokens or franchises in Essex, exempt from the usual jurisdiction, of which one was in Colchester, where St. Mary's church and houses adjoining are situated. But corporations, looking on such exemptions with a jealous eye, have generally brought them under their domination.

BOOK II.

The dean and chapter retained those privileges till they were taken from them by king Henry the eighth; and queen Mary the first placed these three parishes under the jurisdiction of the bishop of London, since which they have been subject to the bishop's visitation, who also grants institution and induction to the vicars. The customs in the Sokens, as to lands, are peculiar: these, though mostly copyhold, are nearly as good as freehold. They pay twelve pence an acre for a fine, and two shillings for a cottage; may pull their houses down without a license; may also cut down their small trees; grant a lease, even for fifty years; and, indeed, in many particulars, act contrary to the customs of other copyholds.

The lord of these three manors, which passed with St. Osyth from Thomas lord Darcy to the earl of Rochford, styles himself, "Lord of the liberty, franchises, dominion, and peculiar jurisdiction of the Sokens, in the county of Essex;" and appoints a commissary, who takes the title of "Official-principal, and Vicar-general in Spiritual Causes to the same Lord." This commissary keeps a court at Thorpe every three weeks, as occasion serves, and proves wills and testaments within the Sokens; which wills are kept in the church of Thorpe. The lord of the Sokens has also this peculiar privilege, that no bailiff can arrest within them but his own.

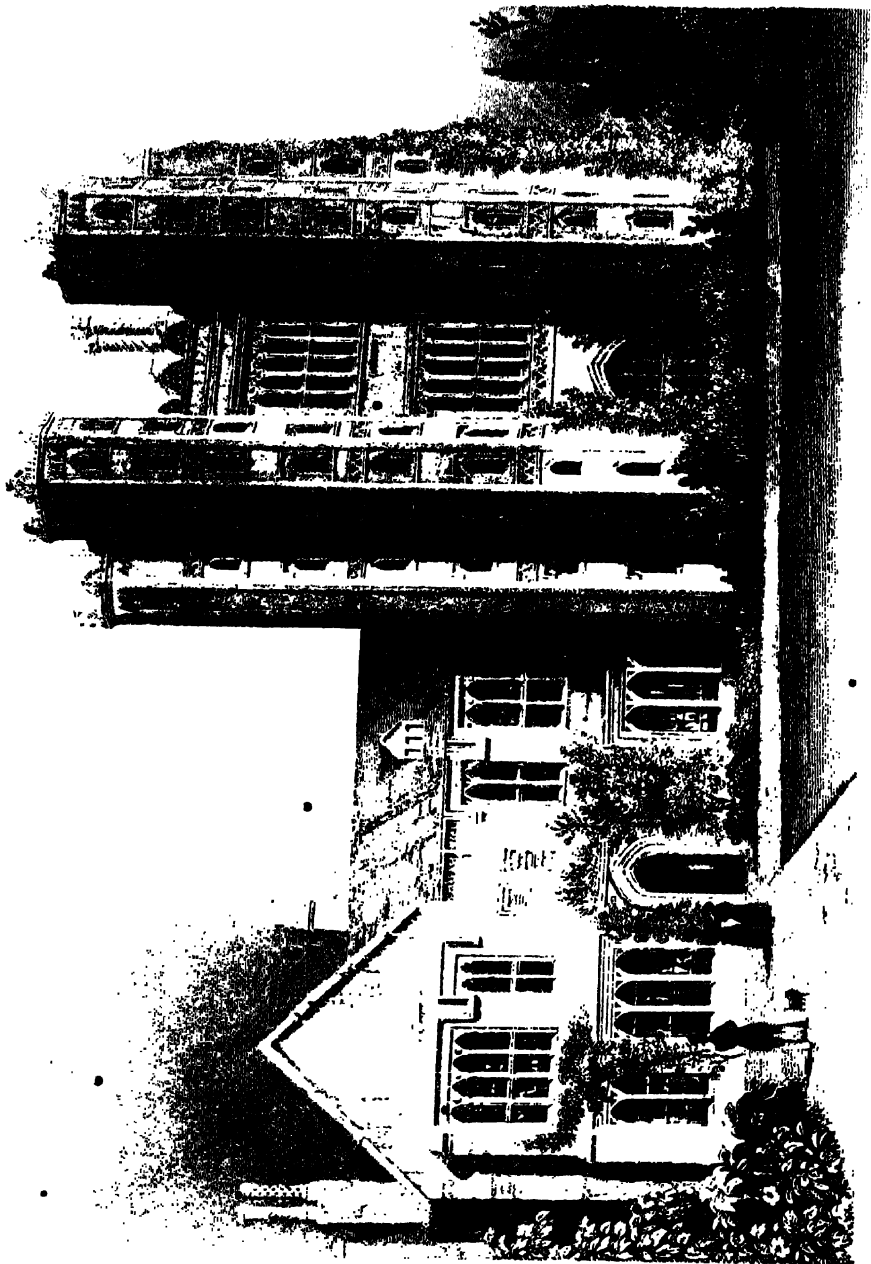
Thirty manses, and about four thousand acres of land, including the three parishes of the Sokens, were given to the church of St. Paul by king Athelstan sometime before the year 941, under the name of Eadulfesnesa. Under the same name, a little altered, it was found to belong to the canons of St. Paul's at the time of the survey, and there is no other name in Domesday-book for the whole district, which was, therefore, not divided into parishes at that time. The name Eadulfes-næsa, is from Edulf, the name of a Saxon thane, with nære, a promontory, or *nose of land*, there being a projection of this description at Walton.

This parish is seventeen miles in circumference; distant twelve miles from Colchester, eleven from Harwich, and sixty-three from London. A fair is held here on the Monday before Whit Sunday. There are two manors.*

Thorpe
hall.

The manor of Thorpe has the mansion about half a mile south-east from the church it had been taken from its original appropriation some time before the year 1066 when king Edward the sixth granted it, with the park, to sir Thomas Darcy and his heirs; and it, with the advowson of the living, remained in his family, as the estates in St. Osyth's and in other parts in this neighbourhood, which descended to the earls Rivers, and to the right honourable the earl of Rochford; but Thorpe hall, and the demesne lands of the manor, have been a long time separated from it. For, either Elizabeth countess Rivers, or some other of that family, sold them to Thomas

* Average annual produce per acre: wheat twenty-eight, barley forty, bushels.



Wharton, esq. of Grays-inn, secretary to queen Henrietta Maria, mother to king Charles the second. He was son of Humphrey Wharton, esq. and Catharine Senhous, a branch of the ancient and noble family of Wharton, and was justice of peace for the counties of Middlesex, Essex, Lancaster, and Westmoréland. His son and heir, Andrew Wharton, esq., mortgaged this estate, which, after his death, was conveyed to Henry Nurse of Mile End: after whose death, it was sold, by a decree in Chancery, in order to be divided; and was purchased in 1721 by Stephen Martin, esq. of the Grove, Mile End, a descendant of the Martin family, of Devonshire.

Sir John Leake, knt., admiral of the white, and rear-admiral of England, who died in 1720 without issue, left his estate to Mr. Martin, who, to transmit his benefactor's name to posterity, assumed the surname and arms of Leake.† His eldest son and successor was Stephen Martin Leake, esq.‡ Clarendieux king-at-arms, who wrote a valuable and interesting Life of sir John Leake, in one volume octavo, and was also the author of Nummi Britannici Historia; or an Historical Account of English Money, &c. London, 1726 and 1745, octavo. On the death of Stephen Martin Leake, esq. his son, of the same name, succeeded to this estate, and died in 1797: they are both buried in the chancel of Thorpe church. On the death of the latter of these, he was succeeded by his brother, John Martin Leake, esq. the present possessor, who rebuilt the house in 1825, and it is now occupied by his eldest son, John Martin Leake, esq.

Landmer manor receives its name from an extensive mere or lake formed from the overflowing of the sea. Landmer hall, the mansion, is believed to be the oldest house in the parish; it is a mile and half north-east from the church. Landmer hall.

The historical notices relating to this manor are scanty and imperfect: the first recorded possessors were the Mortimers, in 1485. The estate next belonged to the Abell family, and then to the Baynings: Anne, eldest daughter of Paul viscount Bayning, conveyed it to her husband, John de Vere, the twentieth earl of Oxford, from whom it passed to William Peck, esq. and next to Richard Westley, who sold it to Robert Shearcroft; and this proprietor built the quay. This estate now belongs to the Hope Life Insurance Company.

The church is a lofty and handsome building, having a nave and chancel, tiled; Church.

* Arms of Wharton:—Sable, a manche, argent.

† Arms of Stephen Martin Leake, esq.:—Quarterly, one and four or, on a saltier engrailed azure, eight annulets argent: on a canton gules, a castle triple towered, of the third, for Leake; two and three, paly of six pieces, or and azure, in chief gules, three martlets of the first, for Martin. Crest:—A carriage with a piece of ordnance thereon, proper.

‡ A good account is given of this gentleman, and some others of the family, in Nicholls' Biographical and Literary Anecdotes of William Bowyer and his Learned Friends, quarto, 1782.

BOOK II. and two side aisles leaded. It is dedicated either to the Virgin Mary or to St. Michael.*

In 1821 the population of this parish amounted to one thousand one hundred and forty-eight, and to one thousand and seventy-three in 1831.

KIRBY.

Kirby. This parish is one of the three Sokens, and lies between Walton and Thorpe: it is nine miles in circumference; distant from Harwich fourteen miles, and from London sixty-four. There is a fair yearly, on the 26th of July.

The name is written in records Kirbe, Kirkby, and Kirkeby, supposed from the Saxon Gyrice, a kirk or church, and bye, a dwelling, that is, the church-house, or house by the church. There are four manors.

Kirby hall. Kirby hall is near the west end of the church; and, being in the centre of the Sokens, the lord keeps his court here on St. Anne's day. This manor belonged to the Darcy and Savage families, and to the earl of Rochford. Elizabeth, countess Rivers, sold the demesne lands to John'la Motte, esq. alderman of London, who gave them to his daughter, the lady Hester, wife of sir Thomas Honeywood, of Mark's hall; and it is now in the possession of the executors for the family of the late W. P. Honeywood, esq.

Grove house. The manor of Grove-house was holden of lord Darcy, of Chichester, by sir John Reynsforth, who died in 1559; and was in the possession of Robert Alefounder in 1630.

Mereland. Mereland is an estate in this parish, which extends into Walton; the mansion is a mile from the church, south-eastward: it belonged anciently to the Shaw family.†

Sneaton hall. Sneaton hall is a manor-house about a mile north-west from the church. The estate is the endowment of one of the prebends of the cathedral church of St. Paul, London: it belongs to the fourteenth stall on the right-hand side of the choir.

* Between the pillars of the south aisle and the nave, under an arch, there is the figure of an armed knight, cross-legged, apparently of the age of Henry the third, or Edward the first. A cushion supports his head, and beneath his feet is a lion couchant: above is a shield, bearing the arms of Salbergh. This figure is traditionally reported to represent a proprietor of Landmer hall.

Monument. A handsome monument, in the chancel, bears the record, which informs us that Thomas Wharton, esq., of Gray's-inn, departed this life, 6th August, 1669, aged 47 years; and that beside him also rests Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Andrew Browne, esq., of Lincoln's-inn.

Charities. There are alms-houses near the church for four dwellers, but without endowment.

† Newcourt, vol. i. p. 209. Sir John Shaw, of Catharine hall and Lincoln's inn, was M.P. and recorder for Colchester, and serjeant-at law, in 1683; and was succeeded, on his decease, by Gabriel Shaw, his grandson, whose only daughter, Elizabeth, was married to John King, esq., by whom she had Shaw King, esq., who succeeded to this estate.

Arms of Shaw:—Sable, a chevron wavy, between three spread eagles, or; impaling, sable, a chevron argent, between three fleur-de-lys, striped, of the second.



The manor of Birch-hall, or Birch-how with Horsey, is on the side of a hill, nearly a mile north from the church. CHAP
XXI.

Ingelric held this manor of the church of St. Paul before the conquest; and it was in the possession of Eustace, earl of Bolougne, and his under-tenant Robert, at the time of the survey, it having been taken from St. Paul's cathedral, and given to the earl. Some time before the year 1437, Birch-how had become part of the possessions of the monastery of St. Osyth, but by whom given is not known. It was granted by king Henry the eighth to Thomas lord Cromwell; and, on his fall, coming again to the crown, queen Elizabeth in 1564 granted it to Henry Fanshaw; but how long it continued in that family is not known. It is supposed to have been conveyed by Mary, daughter of Thomas, lord viscount Fanshaw, to her husband, sir Thomas Cambell. It afterwards became the property of Mr. John Blatch, of Colchester, from whom it passed to John Edwards, M. D. who died in 1757; and it afterwards belonged to the late dean of Norwich.

Birch
hall.

The church has a nave, south aisle, and chancel, and is dedicated to St. Michael.

Church.

The vicarages of Kirby and Walton were united by bishop Gibson in 1630.

There are four alms-houses, part of which are near the church.

The parish of Kirby in 1821 contained eight hundred and fifty-three, and in 1831 nine hundred and seventy two inhabitants.

WALTON ON THE NAZE.

The wall or embankment formerly thrown up along the shore to oppose the advancing encroachments of the sea, and a projecting point of land on its northern extremity, called the Naze, have supplied the name of this parish. On this promontory there is a lofty tower, rising to the height of eighty feet, built of brick, by the corporation of Trinity House, for the direction of vessels passing by, or entering the harbour of Harwich. The narrowest part of the parish, entered by a neck of land, is in length about three miles, and not quite one mile in breadth, bounded by a river westward, on the east by the sea; and on the flowing in of the tide is converted into a peninsula: it is continually diminished by the powerful action of the waves on its eastern shore. The northern extremity has received the name of Waltonstone and German's gap; here eringo-root is gathered, and samphire grows abundantly on the banks of the adjacent river. The elevated station beside the tower affords a fine expansive view over the sea to Harwich, and to Languard fort, on the coast of Suffolk; but, by ascending to the top of this lofty building, we may enjoy a far wider range of prospect; which, over the open sea and the German ocean, seems of illimitable extent. As far as the eye can discern southward, the coast of Kent appears; and turning northward, and to the west, the inland prospect is pleasingly diversified: beneath is the little town of Walton, with the two Martello towers on either side.

Walton
on the
Naze.

BOOK II.

This pleasant and romantic village having obtained celebrity as an agreeable and convenient station for sea-bathing, has rapidly increased in the number of its houses and inhabitants. The hotel is a handsome building, on the highest part of the cliff, about one hundred and fifty feet from the beach. It contains numerous sitting-rooms, bed-rooms, and an elegant ball-room, thirty-six feet long, and eighteen wide. That part of the cliff which was in front has been thrown down on an inclined plane, extending to the beach, where an elegant jetty is erected, with cast-iron railing, and numerous seats: and the remarkably smooth and firm sandy beach offers the best accommodation for walks or rides, extending several miles either way. Walton is seventeen miles from Harwich, seventeen from Colchester, and sixty-eight from London. A splendid terrace and six elegant houses, upon a superior scale, are now erecting at the north end of the village, which are likely to give a character to Walton which it did not before possess.

Walton
hall.

Walton hall, the manor-house, on the peninsular part of the parish, is a building of apparent antiquity, having a tower, and occupying a high and conspicuous situation. This manor belonged anciently to the dean and chapter of St. Paul's, and has passed from them, as the other two Sokens did, to Thomas lord Darcy, earl Rivers, and to the earl of Rochford, and since to Mrs. Welch. It afterwards became the property of Mr. Benjamin Chapman, late of Harwich.

Walton
Ashes.

Walton Ashes is the name given to a capital estate in this parish.

In 1739 the governors of queen Anne's bounty purchased upwards of fifty-five acres of freehold, and thirty-four of copyhold, land here, for the augmentation of Holy Trinity, in Colchester, but the sea has carried away a considerable portion of this estate.

The, thirteenth prebendal stall on the left hand side of the choir of St. Paul's cathedral had its endowment in Walton; but this was devoured by the sea several centuries ago, and hence the stall it belonged to has received the name of *Prebenda Consumpta per Mare*.

In 1772 there were two parcels of land, of considerable extent, lying about a mile from each other, between the church and the sea, and let for the use of the poor who did not take parish relief; but these lands have long since disappeared.

Church.

The church also, after having for a considerable time remained in ruins, was at length demolished and carried away, and the sea has advanced several hundred feet beyond the place where it stood. This church consisted of a nave, two aisles, and a chancel. In 1630, the living was united to that of Kirby.

The population of Walton le Soken in 1821 amounted to two hundred and ninety-three, and in 1831 to four hundred and sixty-nine.

BEAUMONT, WITH MQSE.

Beaumont
with
Mose.

These two parishes were united and consolidated by act of parliament in 1678. They extend northward from the Sokens, and the greater part of them belonged

to the **de Veres**, earls of Oxford. The united parish is twelve miles from Colchester, and sixty-seven from London.*

CHAP.
XXI.

Beaumont, not being mentioned in Domesday-book, is believed to have been included in Mose, or some other parish: the name does not occur in other records till 1241. It had two manors.

The mansion of Old hall and New hall is on the north side of the church. The lords paramount of this manor were the earls of Oxford; and the Berners held under them. Robert, the ninth earl, being banished the realm, and all his possessions confiscated, and sir James de Berners, one of king Richard the second's favourites, executed for alleged treason, this, with their other estates, passed to the crown. But the honours and estates of the noble family of de Vere were restored to Alberic, the tenth earl; and Richard de Berners, recovering the inheritance of sir James, his father, both had their proper right in this estate. Margery, the only daughter and heiress of Richard de Berners, was married, first to Richard de Feriby, and afterwards to John Bouchier, fourth son of William, earl of Eu, who in her right bore the title of lord Berners.† John Feriby, supposed to have been her son, presented to the living in 1429, being styled lord of Beaumont. She herself, jointly with her husband, presented in 1473. He died in 1474, and his lady in the following year; they having held this estate under Richard Plantagenet, duke of Gloucester: for John de Vere, the twelfth earl of Oxford, with his eldest son Aubrey, falling a sacrifice to the contentions between the houses of York and Lancaster, were beheaded in 1461, and their estates given by Edward the fourth to his brother Richard, who in 1483, the first of his reign, granted this estate to John Howard, duke of Norfolk, who was slain at the battle of Bosworth Field. John de Vere, the thirteenth earl of Oxford, had his father's honours and estates restored to him by king Henry the seventh; and John, the fourteenth earl, succeeded him. Afterwards, again coming to the crown, the manors of Old hall and New hall, and Beaumont, and the advowson of the church, were granted to sir Thomas Darcy by king Edward the sixth, in 1551. John, lord Darcy, succeeded to these possessions on his father's decease in 1558, from whom the estate descended to the earls Rivers, and afterwards became the property of the earl of Guildford, who sold it to Guy's hospital. There was formerly a park, and the royalty of fishing in Hunckford water and Oylford bed belongs to this manor.

Old hall
and New
hall.

Bernham's was a messuage and reputed manor, but it is not known where it was situated. In 1393, king Richard the second granted to John Hundely, clerk, a messuage called Bernham's, in Beaumont, late the property of Robert de Vere, duke

Bern-
ham's.

* Average annual produce per acre; wheat twenty-four, barley thirty-two, bushels.

† Dugdale's Baronetage, vol. ii. p. 196.

BOOK II. of Ireland. In the time of Edward the fourth, 1487, the manor of **Bernham's** was in the possession of William Tanfield, who held it under lord **Berners**: Robert Tanfield, of Everton, was his nephew and heir. It belonged to the Christmas family in 1519, who held it under Elizabeth, countess of Oxford, as of her manor of Beaumont hall; and in 1630 it was holden of earl Rivers, in free socage, by fealty, and four shillings rent. Robert was his son and heir. Afterwards this estate seems to have been incorporated with the chief manor.

MOSE.

Mose. This parish lies north from Beaumont, and in a lower situation, by the side of the water. In records the name is written Mose, Moose, and Moyse. In the reign of Edward the Confessor it belonged to a Saxon named Levesun; and at the time of the survey, to Geoffrey de Magnaville. It has only one manor.

Mose hall. Mose hall, the original mansion, is near the water; and New Mose hall is beside the ruins of the church. The Mandeville family held this estate at an early period; and Maud, daughter of Geoffrey Fitz-Piërs, heiress of that family, conveyed it to her husband, Henry de Bohun, earl of Hereford, and in her right earl of Essex, high constable of England. It remained in this family a considerable time. In 1388 it was in the possession of John de Playz, or Plaiz, of Stansted-Montfichet. Margaret, his only daughter and heiress, was married to sir John Howard; and, at the time of her decease, in 1391, held this manor of Thomas of Woodstock, duke of Gloucester, who had married Eleanor, daughter and co-heiress of Humphrey de Bohun; after her decease it was holden by sir John, by the courtesy of England; and his granddaughter Elizabeth was his successor in 1437. She was married to John de Vere, son and heir of Richard, the eleventh earl of Oxford, who was beheaded for his adherence to the house of Lancaster. The manor of Mose, with appurtenances, advowson of the church, and the park, were granted to sir Thomas Darcy, in 1551, by king Edward the sixth. It passed afterwards to lord Guildford, from whom it was conveyed to Guy's hospital. Holmes' island, and several other small islands, formed by the overflowings of the tide, belong to this parish; these are stated to contain eight hundred and forty acres of land.

Churches. The church of Beaumont, dedicated to St. Leonard, is small, and pleasantly situated on a hill.

The church of Mose was near the hall, but very little even of the ruins of it are now visible.

In the reign of king Charles the second, it being represented that the churches of Beaumont and Mose were near to each other, and the inhabitants of these parishes so poor that they were not able to keep them both in repair; as also that the farmers of Mose were only eleven in number, and their church ruinous, and both the churches

having at that time the same patron and incumbent, therefore these two parishes were united and consolidated by act of parliament in 1678. CHAP. XXI.

In 1821 this parish contained four hundred and thirty-four, and in 1831 four hundred and fifty-two inhabitants.

OAKLEY.

This name, given to two parishes lying on the sea-coast, is derived from oak and Oakley. ley, that is, oak pasture. In records it is written Ocle, Acle, and Agley. Ac is the Saxon name of the oak.

GREAT OAKLEY.

This is considerably the largest of these two parishes, being nine miles in circumference; distant six miles from Harwich, and seventy from London. There is a fair on the twenty-fifth of April. Great Oakley.

Before the conquest, the Saxon, Aluric Caper, held these lands of Great and Little Oakley; and at the time of the survey they formed part of the extensive possessions of Robert Gernon, lord of Stansted-Montfichet. There are three manors.

Great Oakley hall manor house is above a mile north-east from the church. Great Oakley hall. Richard, son of Richard Gernon de Montfichet, died in 1258, without issue, and his extensive possessions were divided among his three sisters, Margery, wife of Hugh de Balbec; Aveline, married to William de Fortz, earl of Albemarl; and Philipa, the wife of Hugh de Plaiz, to whom she conveyed this estate: Richard de Plaiz, their son, did homage for it to king Henry the third, in 1270. Ralph, son of the said Richard, dying without issue, Giles de Plaiz, his successor, held this manor, and the advowson of the church, at the time of his decease in 1303; and was succeeded, on his decease in 1327, by his son Richard, to whom the king granted free warren in all his lands in Essex, Hertford, Kent, and Buckinghamshire, and a market and fair at this place. Sir John de Plaiz, his son, was his heir and successor in 1360; who, dying in 1388, left Margaret, his only daughter, his heiress, married to sir John Howard; and she, at the time of her death in 1391, held this estate; and her husband also enjoyed it till his decease in 1437. Sir John, his son, had died before him, leaving his only daughter Elizabeth his heiress to this and other considerable estates. She was married to John de Vere, twelfth earl of Oxford, who was beheaded, with his eldest son Aubrey, in 1461, for their adherence to the house of Lancaster: and his estates were given by Edward the fourth to his brother Richard, duke of Gloucester; but, on the accession of Henry the seventh, the de Vere family recovered their estates, and had this manor, till it was sold by John, the sixteenth earl, to William Pilton, and others, in 1540. In 1551 it was granted by Edward the sixth to sir Thomas Darcy; from whose descendants it passed to Mrs. Gilly, of Cleveland

BOOK II. court, who sold it to Brigadier Warren; and it afterwards became the property of Carteret Leathes, esq., from whom it passed to his descendants, who also had Oakley lodge, belonging to the park, about half a mile north from the church.

Skighaws. This estate contains two hundred and fifty-three acres, and was taken from the capital manor. It belonged to the Darcy family, to lord Guilford, and now forms part of the possessions of Guy's hospital.

Dengwell hall. This estate also belongs to Guy's hospital: it contains two hundred and fifty acres of land. The family of Plaiz, or de Playz, were the original owners of it, but it received its name from Thomas de Denshewell, who had it in the time of Edward the third. Geoffrey de Dersham held it under Richard de Plaiz, who died in 1360; and it appears to have been afterwards in the possession of sir John de Plaiz, whose daughter and heiress Margaret conveyed it to her husband, sir John Howard. Arthur Rush, who died in 1357, had a moiety of this estate, and left his son Anthony, an infant, his heir. In 1556, Thomas Storgard and Edmund Withipole had this possession; and in 1566, Nicholas Steward held it of John lord Darcy.

The other moiety belonged to John Ford, esq. of Great Horkesley, whose second daughter and co-heiress, Eleanor, conveyed it to her husband, Thomas Bendish, esq. of Bumsted Steeple, and it passed to his son Thomas (afterwards sir Thomas Bendish, bart.): this estate pays one pound a year quit rents, or heriots, to Baydon hall, in Ramsey. It was conveyed, with Stone hall and some other lands, to Guy's hospital.

Blunt's hall. This reputed manor was named from sir Andrew le Blund, to whom it anciently belonged, and from whom it descended, by intermarriages, to the families of Battaile, Sutton, Walton, and de Vere, and appears to have gone with Dengwell, for it was holden with that estate by Thomas Bendish, esq. Afterwards, it belonged to Mr. Thomas Mason, of Dedham, and passed to his descendants.

Hough-bridge hall. Walter Hobrege was the owner of this estate in the reign of Edward the third; and in 1327 it was holden by Alexander Flyntard; and by sir John Howard, in 1437: Thomas de Brom also held lands, supposed to be these, under Richard de Plaiz. It also was holden by John Borlas, who died in 1589, leaving his son William his heir.

Church. This ancient church is dedicated to All Saints; its steeple, built of flints and stones, which contained five bells, having become ruinous, fell down; and the parishioners, by the disposal of four of them, raised the sum of eighty pounds, which they increased by subscription to one hundred and fifty pounds, with which the steeple was rebuilt for the reception of the great bell.

The rectory was anciently appended to the manor of Oakley hall; but was granted from it by king Edward the sixth to sir Thomas Seymour, baron of Sudley, after whom it passed to several owners, and to the rev. Mr. Grimwood, who, having

purchased the perpetual advowson, sold it to St. John's college, in Cambridge. There is a glebe of above sixty acres.

CHAP.
XXI.

In 1821 the population of this parish amounted to nine hundred and ninety, and in 1831 to one thousand one hundred and eighteen.

LITTLE OAKLEY.

This parish extends from Great Oakley north-east along the coast: it is five miles in circumference: distant five miles from Harwich, and seventy-one from London. These lands are stated to have included what was holden by a person named Ralph, believed to have been Ralph Baynard, lord of Little Dunmow. There is only one manor.

Little
Oakley.

The manor-house is near the church, on the east; and the demesne lands extend over half the parish. On the forfeiture of William, grandson of Ralph Baynard, they were given to Robert, a younger son of Richard Fitzgilbert, ancestor of the lords Fitzwalter. In 1259, Richard Fillol, or Filliol, held this manor of Robert Fitzwalter; succeeded by his son, sir John Fillol. In 1331, Ralph Filliol conveyed it to sir John Fillol and Margery his wife; John, their son and heir, left two sons, who dying without issue, the estates passed to his daughter Cecily; and, in default of issue male, to William, son of sir John de Sutton, of Wivenhoe,* and his heirs male. Sir Richard de Sutton died in possession of this manor, and was succeeded by his son and heir, Thomas de Sutton, who dying without issue, the manor passed, by the marriage of his sister Margery, to John de Watson, esq., whose son, of the same name, was his successor, followed by Richard de Walton, esq., who leaving no issue, the inheritance passed to Joane de Walton,† married to sir John Howard, jun., who, dying in 1424, left Elizabeth, his only daughter, married to John de Vere, twelfth earl of Oxford; and that noble family presented to the living from 1448 till 1540.‡ Afterwards this manor passed to the crown, and was granted by Edward the sixth to sir Thomas Darcy, in whose descendants it remained till it again passed to the crown, and was granted by king Edward the fourth to sir Thomas Darcy, and he, and his descendants, retained possession, and presented to the living till 1641. The estate afterwards belonged to the family of Gilley; who first presented to the living in 1660. William Leathes, esq., was the next owner; who being officially appointed to reside in the Netherlands in 1716, his nephew, Carteret Leathes, esq., succeeded to this estate, which has passed to his descendants.§

Little
Oakley
hall.

* Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 445.

† The said Joan, after her husband's death, was married to sir Thomas Erpyngham, and held this estate and advowson at the time of her death in 1424.

‡ Newcourt, vol. ii. p. 476.

§ Pewet island belongs to this manor. Great quantities of pewets are bred here in the spring, which, according to the vulgar tradition, come for that purpose on St. George's day, and sit on their eggs, without sleeping, till they are hatched, &c.—Fuller's Worthies, in Essex, p. 378.

BOOK II.

Church.

The church is an ancient building, with a nave and chancel, and a stone tower containing four bells : it is dedicated to St. Mary.

The population of this parish in 1821 amounted to two hundred and sixty-two, and to two hundred and forty-four in 1831.

WRABNESS.

Wrabness.

This parish extends eastward from Bradfield, and northward from the two Oakleys to the river Stour. In records the name is written Warbenase, Wrabnas, Wrabnashe, and Wrabbenase : distant four miles from Manningtree, and sixty-five from London.

The lands of this parish, before and after the conquest, belonged to the abbey of St. Edmundsbury, in Suffolk, to which it was given by Alfric Kempe :* it was holden under that monastery, by various families, on the yearly payment of ten marks to the cellarer. There are two manors.

Manor of
Wrabness.

The mansion of this manor is near the church, on the east. The most ancient owners were the descendants of Robert le Bland (i. e. the Fair), one of William the conqueror's attendants,† whose son Gilbert, was the founder of the priory of Ikesworth, in Suffolk ; and who, by his wife, Alice de Colekirk, had William, living in the reign of king Henry the second, and who married Sarah de Montchery : Hubert, his son, had, by Agnes Lisle his wife, William le Bland, who married Cecily de Vere, and had by her William, and Agnes, and Roese. William, the son and heir, was standard-bearer to the barons at the battle of Lewes, and was slain there, fighting against king Henry the third. He had this manor, and left his two sisters his coheiresses. Agnes was the wife of William de Creketoft, whose son William was then of age. Roese was married to Robert de Valeyns, or Valoines, and they had this estate : they had a son named Robert, who died in 1282, leaving Roese, married to Edmund de Pakenham, and Cecily, the wife of Robert de Ufford, by whom she had Robert de Ufford, first earl of Suffolk of this family, Ralph, and Edmund. Ralph de Ufford, the second son, married, first, Maud, one of the daughters of Henry Plantagenet, lord of Monmouth and earl of Lancaster, second son of Edmund Crouchback, brother to king Edward the first, widow of William lord Burgh, earl of Ulster, by whom he had his daughter Maud. By his second wife, Eve, daughter and heiress of John de Clavinger, he had two sons.‡ Maud, daughter of the first wife, was married to Thomas de Vere, the eighth earl of Oxford, who, at the time of his decease in 1370, held this manor of the abbot of St. Edmundsbury. Their son, Robert de Vere, marquis of Dublin and duke of Ireland, died in

* Monast. Anglic. vol. i. p. 294—298.

† D'Eudemare, Hist. de Willaume, p. 664.

‡ Dugdale's Baronage, vol. i. p. 47—49.

1392, without issue : Maud, the mother, survived her husband and son till 1412, and, by her will, gave this estate to the abbot and convent of Brusyard, in Suffolk, for a chantry, consisting of a warden and four priests, founded by her mother in 1354, and converted afterwards into a nunnery : provided it was amortized, at the expense of that house, in three years after her decease, otherwise to be sold by her feoffees, and the money paid to the abbess and convent, and their successors, for the health of her soul. It is believed to have been sold as ordered, and purchased by sir John Hende, who, at the time of his decease in 1418, held this manor, with a sea-water mill, of the abbot of Bury. John, the eldest son and heir, died in 1461, and the younger, of the same name, died in 1464 ; and Joane, the only daughter of the first of these, became heiress to the whole estate of this rich family. She was married to Walter Writel, esq., of Bobbingworth, who, dying in 1475, left William, who died young, and John, who fell a sacrifice to the “ sweating sickness ” of 1485. His only child, John, an infant, was afterwards married, very young, to Etheldreda, daughter of his guardian, sir John Shaa, but died under age in 1507, leaving Julian, his only daughter, who died soon after him. His mother, Anne, held this manor, and that of Ramsey, at the time of her decease in 1488 ; and, on his death in 1507, it passed into the hands of the king ; but was soon after conveyed, with the manor of Ramsey, to William Ayloffe, esq., of Breton’s, who married Etheldreda, widow of John Writtle, esq. On his decease in 1517, William his son was his successor ; and his great-grandson, sir William Ayloffe, conveyed this estate to — Dawes, who sold it to sir George Whitmore, knt., who previously had a grant from king James the first of a moiety of the manor of Ramsey hall, or Michelstow.* The manor of Wrabness now belongs to Nathaniel Garland, esq.

Little occurs in records relative to this estate previous to 1544, when it was holden by Christopher Roydon, of the honour of Hedingham castle : his heir was his son John, who died in 1619, and left Alexander, whose successor was Alexander, his son ;

* He was the second son of William Whitmore, alderman of London, son of Richard Whitmore, esq., of Charley, in Shropshire ; and, dying in 1654, was succeeded by William Whitmore, esq., his eldest son, who, on his decease in 1678, left his only son William, at an early age contracted in marriage to the daughter of sir William Whitmore, bart., of Shropshire : he was married soon after his father’s death, and accidentally killed by a pistol which lay in his chariot, on his return from Epsom, dying under age and childless. In 1687, the estates were sold by the trustees to sir Thomas Davall, knt., descended from an ancient family of the north of England, who purchased at the same time the Whitmore estates, in Ramsey and Dover-court. The manor of Wrabness was afterwards conveyed, by the will of sir Thomas Davall the younger, in 1714, to Daniel Burr, esq., who sold it to Lewis Peak Garland, esq.

Arms of Whitmore :—A shield fretty.

Arms of Davall :—Gules, a lion rampant, between eight fleurs de lys, argent, three, two, four, and one.
Crest :—A hand proper, holding a fleur de lys, argent. Motto : “ In cœlo quies.”

Arms of Burr :—Ermine, on a chief indented, sable, two lions rampant, or.

BOOK II. after whom the next owner was James Smyth, esq., of Upton, from whom it has
Church. passed to his descendant, sir George Henry Smyth, bart. and now belongs to Nathaniel Garland, esq.

The church, dedicated to All Saints, is a small ancient building, which had formerly a stone tower and five bells; now only two bells in a wooden turret.*

In 1821 this parish contained two hundred and fifty-three, and in 1831 two hundred and forty-eight inhabitants.

RAMSEY.

Ramsey. This parish is on the borders of the river Stour, between Dover and Wrabness, where a projecting point of land, on the north-east toward Harwich, forms a small peninsula named the Ray. The high lands of this parish are twelve miles in circumference. The name in records, Ramesey, alias Missetow, or Micklestow. There is a fair on the fifteenth of June. Distant from Harwich three miles, and sixty-eight from London.†

Before the conquest, the owners of lands here were Aluric Capar and Alric; which at the survey belonged to Ralph Baynard. There are seven manors.

Roydon
hall.

The mansion of the chief manor is named Roydon hall, and is two miles west from the church. This estate passed successively through the noble families of Baynard, Fitzgilbert, Fitzwalter, and de Vere; under whom it was holden by a family self-named de Ramsey: Elias de Ramsey held it in the reign of king John; Alexander de Ramsey had it in 1260; and it was holden by Alice de Ramsey in 1269. Alexander had, by Maud his wife, three daughters, coheirresses. Hugh de Vere, earl of Oxford, granted the marriage of them, and of their mother Maud, for one hundred marks, to William de Clara, archdeacon of Sudbury. Isabel, the oldest, was married to sir Ralph de Philely, and Joane to John le Parker: these were possessed of this estate in 1275. The name of the third daughter is not mentioned. This manor is supposed to have been conveyed to the family of Roydon by marriage. In 1360 to 1370, it belonged to Walter de Roydon; to John in 1409. In the reigns of Henry the sixth, and Edward the fourth, Robert and Thomas Roydon had this estate, which was holden by John Roydon in 1498, who was succeeded by Christopher, who died in 1544, and whose only daughter, Mary or Margaret, was married to John Lucas, esq., of Colchester, to whom she conveyed this estate. John Lucas, esq., the eldest son, died possessed of it in 1619, leaving his son Alexander his heir. In 1680, Robert Carey, earl of Monmouth, held this manor of Thomas lord Bruce, and the

Inscrip-
tion.

* There is an inscription to the memory of the rev. Robert Rich, who was born at Hatton, in Scotland, and died 28th January, 1728, having been thirty-three years rector of this parish, and forty-eight years vicar of Ramsey. He was a father to the orphan, a helper to the friendless, a preventer of strife, and one that spent his life in acts of charity and beneficence.

† Average annual produce per acre: wheat twenty-four, barley thirty-two, oats forty, bushels.

lady Diana his wife, countess dowager of Oxford. In 1635, it belonged to sir Harbottle Grimston, knt. and bart., and was afterwards purchased by James Smyth, esq., of Upton, together with a farm named Stourewood. The present owner is Nathaniel Garland, esq.

CHAP.
XXI.

This manor-house is on the south of Roydon hall: the estate was taken from the capital manor, but at what time is not known. It belonged to John Herde in 1599, and in 1605 was granted by king James the first to Robert earl of Sussex. It next belonged to Thomas Branson, of East Bergholt; and afterwards it belonged to Mrs. Peeke, of Lawford, who left it to her daughters.

Ramsey
hall.

This was originally a member of the capital manor, and named Ramsey cum Michaelstow, because the house is near the church, which is dedicated to St. Michael. In 1379 it was given to the monastery of St. Osyth. After the dissolution, a moiety of it was granted from the crown to Robert Carew, earl of Monmouth, and the other moiety to sir George Whitmore. From the Whitmore family it passed to those of Davall, and of Burr, as the manor of Wrabness did. It now belongs to Nathaniel Garland, esq., and the hall, picturesquely situated above the river Stour, has been made an elegant seat.*

Michaels-
tow.

The mansion of this manor is three quarters of a mile north from the church; it has ~~been~~ sometimes named East Hall. It was holden, as the other estates in this parish, of the earls of Oxford; and in 1406 belonged to Richard at Pantry; and Thomas Halbeck, who died in 1480, held it of sir Thomas Montgomery; and he had also the Ray in this parish: his heirs were Christiana and Alice, his daughters, and Thomas Wilkoky, son of Margery, another of his daughters; and it passed, as the other estates here, to the family of the present owner, Nathaniel Garland, esq.

East New
hall.

This estate was also taken from the capital manor, and the house and lands lying on the strand by the river Stour has occasioned its name. It was holden of the manor of Ramsey hall by William de Reynford, esq., in 1433, and passed to John Lucas, esq., who died in 1599, and was succeeded by his son Alexander in 1619; after whom it passed through various owners to Nathaniel Garland, esq.

Stroud
land.

This manor is in the peninsula formed by the continued action of the tide on the north-east of this parish; the mansion is a mile from the church. A family surnamed de Ruly held this estate of the honour of Castle Hedingham in the reigns of Henry the third, and of the first, second, and third Edwards. It was holden by the abbey of St. Osyth, Thomas Halbeck, and Nicholas Peeke, in the reign of Henry the sixth; and in 1545, William Bunynghyll, and Eleanor his wife, conveyed this estate, with East hall, to king Henry the eighth; and in 1557, it was granted, by queen Mary, with other estates, to sir Thomas White. It afterwards passed from sir George

Ray, or le
Rey.

* The ancestor of the present owner of this estate recovered one thousand five hundred acres of land from the river Stour by embankments.

BOOK II. Whitmore, through the families of Davall, Burr, &c. to Lewis Peak Garland, esq., and to the present owner, Nathaniel Garland, esq.

Foulton
hall.

This manor and hamlet is usually named Foughton, or Fulton. The manor-house is about three quarters of a mile south from the church. In Edward the confessor's reign it belonged to Briscius and Ednod; and at the survey, Suene, of Essex, and his tenant Odard, had one part, and Robert, son of Corbution, and Robert his under-tenant, had the other. The earliest succeeding possessors were the Filiolls, of Little Oakley. Joanna, daughter of John Filioll, of Thorpe, who died in 1418, held this estate; by her husband, John Howse, she had a son named Walter, born in 1402. Edward Duke had this estate at the time of his decease in 1572, and was succeeded by his son, John Duke, of Colchester, in 1629; and it belonged afterwards to Robert Lowndes, esq., to Mrs. Mary Lowndes, and to Philips Baggot.

Ramsey street is the name of a village on the western side of a creek into which the tide ebbs and flows across the great road to Harwich.

Church.

The church, dedicated to St. Michael, has a stone tower with five bells; the chancel was built in 1597 by — Goldham and William —, as appears by a defaced inscription.*

The great tithes of this church having been appropriated to the abbey of St. Osyth, a vicarage was ordained here, in the gift of the abbey, and at the dissolution passed to the crown, where it has remained to the present time.

In 1821 Ramsey contained six hundred and seventy-six, and in 1831 seven hundred and eight inhabitants.

Dover-
court,
with Har-
wich.

This district occupies the north-east extremity of the hundred, and of the county. The learned antiquary and critic, William Baxter, derives the name of Dover from the British "duvrisc," a race or reach of water. Dover-court is seven miles in circumference; the village one mile distant from Harwich. There is a fair on Whit-Monday.

Before the conquest this parish belonged to Uluuin; and at the survey to Alberic de Vere, ancestor of the family of that name, earls of Oxford. There is one manor.

Dover-
court
manor.

The earls of Oxford were lords paramount of Dover-court from the time of William the conqueror to the reign of Henry the eighth, except during the forfeiture of Robert, duke of Ireland, and the attainder of John, the twelfth earl. Alberic, the first earl, had a daughter named Juliana, married to Hugh Bigot, to whom she

Inscrip-
tions.

* There is an inscription to the memory of William Whitmore, esq., son of sir George Whitmore. He died in November, 1789, aged 64 years. Also, here lies buried sir Thomas Davall, knt. He was one of the burgesses for Harwich, in all the parliaments of king William, and the two first of queen Anne. He died in November, 1712. Here lies, also, Thomas his son, who deceased in April, 1714.

conveyed this estate: he died in 1177, as did his successors; Roger in 1220, Hugh in 1225, and a second Roger in 1270, who also held Harwich as a member of this manor: Roger Bigot, his brother Hugh's son, was his successor. This Hugh was his second brother, and chief justice of England. Roger, either to regain the favour of Edward the first, whom he had highly offended, or from a dislike of his brother and heir-apparent, made the king his heir in 1302, surrendering to him his honours, and his high office of earl-marshal of England, on condition that, if his wife bore him any children, all should be returned. On his death without issue in 1307, his estates, and this in particular, passed to king Edward. In 1312, king Edward the second gave it to his brother, Thomas de Brotherton, on whom he afterwards conferred the office of marshal. Margaret, his eldest daughter, styled marshal countess of Norfolk, was married, first to John de Segrave, and afterwards to sir Walter de Manny, K.G. from whom this manor has sometimes been called Mawney. In 1398 she was created duchess of Norfolk for life: by her first husband, who died in 1353, she had Anne, abbess of Barking, and Elizabeth. Sir Walter died in 1372. She held this estate, and Harwich, jointly with her husband's, and in her own right, and died in 1399. Her daughter Elizabeth was married to John de Mowbray, lord Mowbray, of Axholm, who died in 1368; by him she had John, created earl of Nottingham, who died under age, and Thomas Mowbray, who became heir to the estate. In 1382, the title of earl of Nottingham was conferred upon him; he was advanced to the title of duke of Norfolk in 1397, and constituted earl-marshal of England.* He died in exile at Venice in 1400. By his lady Elizabeth, sister and coheirress of Thomas Fitzalan, earl of Arundel, he had Thomas and John, and Margaret and Isabel. Thomas Mowbray, earl-marshal, the eldest son, was beheaded in 1405, and forfeited all his estates; but John, his brother, was restored to the earldom of Nottingham, with the office of earl-marshal, in 1413, and to the dukedom of Norfolk in 1416. He held this manor, and the borough of Harwich, at the time of his death in 1432. These estates were part of the dower of his lady Katharine, daughter of Ralph Nevill, by whom he had John Mowbray, the last duke of Norfolk of this family, who died in 1477. He married Elizabeth, daughter of John Talbot, earl of Shrewsbury, by whom he had his only daughter Anne, contracted in marriage to Richard, duke of York, second son of king Edward the fourth, who, it was believed, was murdered with his brother, in the Tower, in 1483; and the lady, dying in the same year, the large estates of the Mowbrays passed to the families of Howard and Berkeley, as descended from Margaret and Isabel.

* He was the first on whom this personal, honorary, and officary title was conferred and made hereditary, by the name and style of earl-marshal, with power to bear in their hand a gold truncheon, enamelled with black at each end, having at the upper end of it the king's arms engraven thereon, and at the lower end his own.

BOOK II. * In 1512, John de Vere, thirteenth earl of Oxford, died, holding Dover-court and Harwich of the abbot of St. Osyth, as did also his successor, the fourteenth earl, in 1526, and the sixteenth, from whom they are supposed to have passed to the crown, and in 1558 were granted by queen Elizabeth to Thomas White and others. These estates were soon after again conveyed to the crown, where they remained through the reign of queen Elizabeth, and part of that of James the first, who granted or sold them to sir George Whitmore, from whose family they passed into those of Davall, Burr, &c., and to Lewis Peak Garland. It now belongs to Nathaniel Garland, esq.

Church. * The church is dedicated to All Saints, and has a nave and chancel, with an embattled stone tower. It is on the north of the road from Harwich to Ramsey.

When Alberic de Vere, the first earl of that family, founded Colne priory, in the reign of William Rufus, he gave to it this church, and the lands belonging to it, and the tithes of the demesnes, and of the town and fishery, and the occupation of lands and a tenement. This grant was confirmed by the second earl, and also by king Henry the first, in 1111.* Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, having, with the consent of Colne priory, founded the chapel of Harwich, made a new grant of this church, and all its appurtenances, with the chapel of Harwich, to the monks of Colne, to whom the great tithes were appropriated, and a vicarage ordained, both of which passed to the crown on the dissolution of monasteries;† and the advowson of the vicarage has remained there to the present time; but the great tithes and glebe lands were conveyed by king James the first to sir George Whitmore, and have passed with the other estates of the parish. The vicarage was augmented with a farm, purchased by bishop Robinson's benefaction, with the addition of queen Anne's bounty.‡

Guild. There was formerly a presbyter guild, or fraternity of St. George, with an endowment of lands and houses, and a garden at Harwich. The original building of the George inn, opposite to the church, was either the site of the house, or part of its endowment. Its possessions were sold by queen Elizabeth.

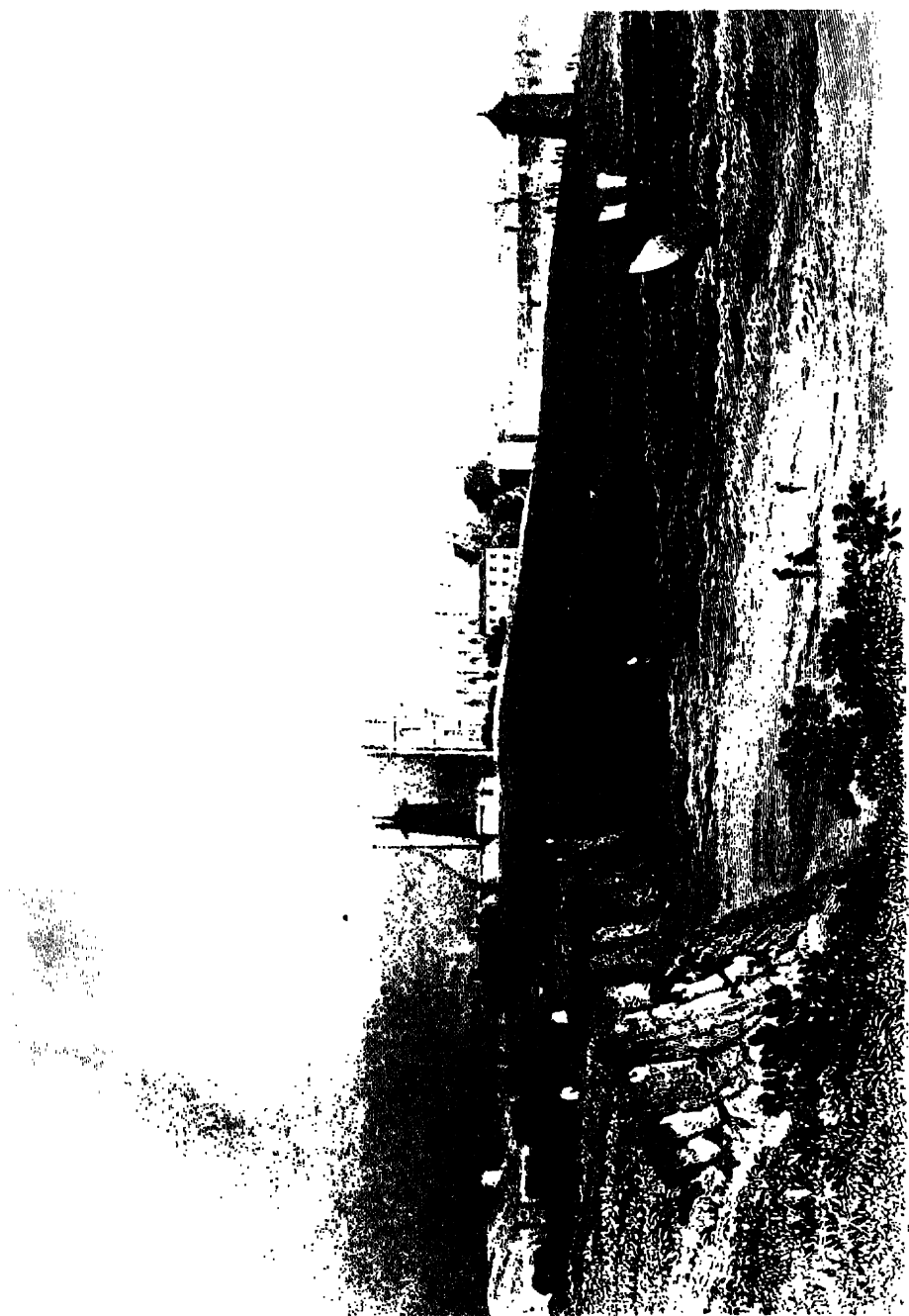
There was, in ancient times, a miraculous rood or crucifix here, of great celebrity, which attracted crowds of visitors and devotees, and it was vulgarly believed that any attempt to close the church doors upon it would be attended with sudden death; they were, therefore, left open night and day. This fancied security was the

* Monast. Anglic. vol. i. p. 436.

† Monast. Anglic. vol. ii. p. 878.

‡ This parish receives four pounds six shillings and eight-pence yearly, part of the benefaction of Henry Smith, esq.

Charitable benefactions. A tenement and shop, in Harwich, and a field of seven acres, called Franks, were given for the reparation of the church; and two fields of ten acres, near Dover-court-green, are also appropriated to the same use.



occasion of a tragical occurrence to several imprudent individuals, enthusiastically opposed to what they deemed idolatrous observances of Catholicism, who entered the church at midnight, in 1532, in the reign of king Henry the eighth, and removing the rood to some distance, burnt it to ashes. For this act, denominated felony and sacrilege, Robert King was hanged in Dedham, at Burchet; Robert Dedham, at Cartaway causeway; and Nicholas Marsh, at Dover-court. Robert Gardiner, the fourth that was condemned, made his escape.*

HARWICH.†

This town occupies a narrow point of land at the north-east extremity of the hundred and of the county, with the estuaries of the Stour and the Orwell on the north, and the sea on the east. On the south of the town, a cliff divides Orwell haven from the bay that extends to Walton Naze. This cliff is observed to be constantly giving way to the action of the sea, which, it is expected, will at some future period force a passage to the opposite shore, and insulate Harwich and its vicinity. The cliff contains many acres of land; its greatest height about fifty feet; at the bottom, a stratum of a clay-like substance, on exposure to the air, gradually hardens to a species of stone, and the streets of Harwich are paved with it. The town-walls were also formed of this material, as were the castles of Oxford and Framlingham.‡ This eminence is named the Beacon-cliff; and there was formerly a signal-house and telegraph here, which have been gradually destroyed. Harwich.

* “But the Spirit of God,” observes Fox, “did more edify the people in godly learning than all the sermons that had been preached there a long time before.”—*Fox's Acts and Monuments*, book ii.

† This ancient borough and sea-port is situated 52 deg. 3 min. north lat. and 1 deg. 21 min. east long.: from Chelmsford distant forty-two miles and three-quarters, north-east by east, and from London seventy-one and three-quarters, in the same direction. • The markets are on Tuesday and Friday: fairs, the first of May and the eighteenth of October.

‡ In 1338, and also in 1352, a tax or toll was granted for building and repairing the walls of this town. Above the clay are different strata; fine sand, and stone and gravel mixed with small pebbles, and blended with fossil shells, of the bivalve and turbate kinds; these are sometimes found separate, and sometimes in masses, intermixed with sand. The upper part of the cliff is common sandy earth, in which a few veins of a white friable substance (supposed to be talc), resembling isinglass, have been found. Various teeth of large animals, and bones of an extraordinary size, have been discovered in the fallen masses of this cliff. These are, by some writers, supposed to have belonged to the elephants brought into this country by Claudius, in the year 43, as is stated by Dion Cassius, ch. xxi. b. 60, who further observes, that Claudius landed his army in Kent, and crossed the Thames into Essex, where he conquered the natives; and it is hence probably conjectured that these teeth had lain in the earth above seventeen hundred years. The editor has some of these bones: the cliff is full of animal remains and of large fossil trees, and amber is often found on the sands here, as it is also on the Suffolk coast, near Landguard fort.

In the autumn of the year 1810, lying under the cliff, a heap of stones was discovered, possessing the property of forming a cement durable as stone. The corporation refused fifteen thousand pounds for the heap, which has since proved a very valuable and lucrative possession.

BOOK II.

The prospect from this elevated station presents a view of the higher parts of the town, with the two light-houses, and the handsome new church, lately erected, and other public buildings, and the shipping in the harbour and upon the ocean. Between this station and the town there is a pleasant walk, named the Esplanade: a broad causeway, formed of cement or artificial stone, manufactured from materials found here, extends along the road the greater part of the way, to where it begins to ascend towards the top of the cliff; and above this, there is a large Martello tower, mounted with ten guns. It is of a circular form, faced with granite, and bomb-proof.* The guns, mounted on a revolving frame, can be pointed in any direction; and the men who work them are completely secured from danger by a high parapet. The entrance is by a narrow opening, a considerable height from the ground, by means of a wooden frame or ladder, which can be removed. The lower part contains the ammunition and provisions, lodged in bomb-proof apartments.

Light-
houses.

Harwich had formerly a blazing fire of coals, and six candles, the weight of a pound each, kept burning in the night time, in a large room with a glazed front over the principal gate, on the southern extremity of the town, to guard vessels from a sand-bank called the Andrews, which forms a bar across the entrance to the harbour from Landguard fort into the rolling ground, where there is good anchorage. In the time of Charles the second, this purpose was more completely effected by two light-houses erected under letters patent, and furnished with lamps of a peculiar construction. One of these yet retains its original form; the other has been rebuilt, or much altered and improved, and, rising to a considerable height, forms a conspicuous object at a great distance. The old light-house is near the beach.

From the Saxon name of *pepe-pic*† given to this place, it seems probable that an army was stationed here to oppose the landing of the Danes; and there is good reason to believe, that in the time of the Romans, the count of the Saxon shore had a fortress where some remains of a camp may be traced, one side of it at least, half a mile in extent, from the town-gate southernly to Beacon-hill field, in the midst of which there is a tumulus, where there was formerly a windmill. The rampart, or vallum, is in many places twelve feet high, and the foss, now chiefly filled up, was six feet deep, and forty feet wide; the other part has been washed away by the sea. Another work extends from this, easternly, on the top of the hill; and the high road from the town, toward this station, yet bears the name of the Street, and has, in various parts of it, considerable remains of a stone pavement, all which prove it to have been a very large military way of the Romans, named by the Saxons a *stane street*. What is undoubted evidence of its Roman origin, is the discovery of Roman

* This is the largest tower of the kind in England; and the wall measures eight feet in thickness.

† A haven or bay where an army lies.—Camd. Britan.



coins some time ago, in the possession of Mr. Bagnal, a naval officer of Harwich; and a tessellated pavement, found in a small farm, near the street, belonging to the vicarage of Dover-court: a wall was also pulled down many years ago, found to be entirely composed of Roman materials. The most ancient record of any important occurrence here is of a complete victory over the Danes, by king Alfred, at the mouth of the Stour, in the year 885.

Harwich is said to have first rose to importance on the decay of a town named Orwell, situated where there is now a shoal called the West Rocks, five miles from the shore, on which the ruins are yet to be seen at low water.

In 1270, Harwich appears in the record as an appendage to the manor of Dover-court, and a hamlet; it has also been named a manor, and has continued in the same owners as Dover-court. Being on the border of the sea, it consequently suffers the inconvenience of having no wholesome water but what is brought from a considerable distance; yet, from its situation on high ground, by a clean bold shore, this town is pleasant and healthy.

The town consists of three main streets; High street, Church street, and West street, with several lanes branching out on either side. It was formerly inclosed with a wall, and had four gates, named St. Helen's-port, Barton's, or Water-gate, St. Austin's-gate, and the Castle-gate; also three inferior gates, named Savers, or Salve-gate, Burham's, and Tilney's. It had a castle and an admiralty-house; and the dukes of Norfolk had a large house near St. Austin's-gate, in the hall-window of which there appeared the arms of Thomas de Brotherton, earl of Norfolk, till 1676, when they were taken down.

Among the principal buildings are the town-hall, the jail, custom-house, three places for divine worship belonging to dissenters, a free school founded by Humphrey Parsons, esq. in 1724, and a national school, erected in 1813, at the expense of the corporation. A reading-room and assembly-room have been erected in West street, and a small theatre was opened in the year 1813.

Harwich obtained a charter, by which it was made a borough and market town, in the reign of Edward the second, in the year 1318, which favour was procured by the intercession of that king's brother, Thomas de Brotherton, lord of this place. The substance of the charter was, "That the town of Harwich be a free borough, and that the said earl's men and tenants, of the said town, and their heirs and successors, be free burgesses, and use and enjoy the free customs appertaining to a free borough, with a market every week, on Tuesday, and free customs belonging to markets," &c.*

* This charter was confirmed in 1342; again in 1377; and afterwards by the fourth, fifth, and sixth Henrys, the last of whom, in 1422, confirmed their liberties and franchises, not in the least revoked; and again, in 1438, accepted of, approved, ratified, and confirmed them: as did also king Edward the sixth in 1547; and queen Mary in 1553; and queen Elizabeth in 1560. But the amplest charter was

BOOK II.

The trade of this port formerly arose from its being the station of the post-office packets, by which a constant intercourse was kept up between this country and the continent. Four packets sailed every week for Gottingen; and this was the principal place of embarkation for Holland and Germany. This source of emolument has been in a great degree diminished or destroyed, since the general establishment of steam-packets.* The inhabitants are principally employed in maritime pursuits; and the north-sea fishery, though of less importance than formerly, yet employs a great number of vessels, whilst a considerable traffic is carried on by means of wherries with Ipswich and Manningtree. One hundred and three British and ten foreign vessels entered inward, and fifty-eight British and five foreign vessels cleared outward, in the year 1826: the number of ships belonging to the port in 1818 was ninety-one, averaging a burthen of sixty-four tons. Ship-building is also carried on to a considerable extent; the dock-yard is well supplied with launches, storehouses, and other requisites. Several third rates, and other large vessels, have been built here; and a patent slip has been recently constructed, on which ships of very large burthen may be hauled up for repair with great facility.†

During the season this place is visited for sea-bathing, and excellent accommodations are provided. Bathing machines have been introduced; but the private

procured for them in 1604, by sir Edward Coke, then attorney-general. Under former charters the government of this corporation had been in a port-reeve, or portman; in a bailiff, constables, and tenants, a chamberlain and treasurers, and a capital burgess. By the last charter it was settled in a mayor, eight aldermen, twenty-four capital burgesses, and a recorder, and other subordinate officers. The right of sending two representatives to parliament, the exercise of which had been dormant from the reign of Edward the third, was restored by this deed. The mayor is chosen by the capital burgesses on St. Andrew's day. They were also then invested with the privilege of returning two members to parliament: also, they had then the grant of a second market weekly, on Fridays, and two fairs yearly, the one on the feast of St. Philip and St. James, the other on the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist. These franchises and immunities were confirmed by Charles the second, but a *quo warranto* was afterwards brought against this; they were, however, fully restored and confirmed by king William the third. The liberty of the corporation contains the borough of Harwich, and the tenants, residents, and inhabitants of the village of Dover-court. How far it reaches by water is not ascertained in the charters. By the records of their admiralty courts, it appears they have amerced certain persons for unlawfully fishing near Shotley. Quarter sessions are held here for the borough, and a court of record, of pleas for the recovery of debts of from five to one hundred pounds, but is seldom resorted to.

The arms of Harwich:—A portcullis. Crest:—An ancient one-masted ship, with sail furled, the poop and stern much higher than the middle.

• When the Editor was at Harwich last year, he learnt that the mail packet had been taken away from Harwich, but that the people there were in some hopes of having it restored. The town had suffered much by the removal of the mail.

† In this deep and spacious harbour, more than one hundred sail of men-of-war, with frigates, and between three and four hundred colliers, are said to have been riding at one time, without danger or inconvenience.

baths are very neat and convenient. These stand in a large reservoir of sea-water, which is changed every tide, and supplied with fresh water every hour, by a contrivance on the principle of a natural syphon. In some of these baths the water is made hot, for invalids; who, if they have neither strength nor courage to plunge themselves into the water, are assisted with a chair. There are also vapour baths, and machinery to throw the sea-water, either hot or cold, on any part of the body.

Landguard Fort, situated at the south-east extremity of Suffolk, but still considered as belonging to this county, is immediately opposite to Harwich. It is a very strong fortification, erected for the defence and security of Harwich harbour in the reign of James the First. This is built upon a point of land united to Walton-Colness, but so surrounded by the sea at high water as to become an island nearly a mile from the shore. According to tradition, the outlets of the Stour and Orwell were anciently on the north side, through Walton Marshes in Suffolk; and the place called the Fleets was a part of the original channel. This is probably true; the violence of the sea and the strength of the land floods having effected great changes on this coast. The soil not being favourable, the laying of the foundations of Landguard Fort was accomplished only after considerable labour, and at a vast expense. It completely commands the entrance of the harbour, which, though between two and three miles wide at high water, is too shallow to admit the passage of ships excepting by a narrow and deep channel on the Suffolk side. At some distance from the fort, on a spot called, by Bishop Gibson, Walton, or Felixstow castle, various fragments of urns, coins, and other Roman antiquities, have been dug up at different times. Formerly, much copperas was manufactured in this district, but the decrease of the copperas-stone occasioned the business to be relinquished.

Landguard
fort.

The ancient church was founded about the thirteenth century by Roger Bigot, earl of Norfolk, and dedicated to St. Nicholas. It consisted of a nave, in length sixty feet, with two side aisles, supported by ten pillars, and a chancel, the whole leaded; it had a quadrangular tower of stone with a wooden frame, embattled; above which there rose a spire, leaded. In 1821, this venerable structure was taken down, and a magnificent new building erected at the cost of nearly twenty thousand pounds. It measures in length one hundred, and in breadth sixty feet; it is chiefly of brick, with buttresses, and steeple of stone.*

Church.

* On a white marble monument, of elegant workmanship, there is an inscription to the memory of sir William Clarke, knt. secretary of war to Charles the second, who, in June 1666, was mortally wounded in the memorable sea-fight between the duke of Albemarle and the famous Dutch admiral, De Ruyter; it is in Latin, of which the following is a translation:—"Here lies sir William Clarke, knt. and secretary at war to the most serene king Charles the second; and secretary to the most noble George, duke of Albemarle, whose fortune he followed through all emergencies for more than twelve years; and whose efforts in restoring our monarchy and laws he strenuously assisted. In the famous sea-fight with

Inscrip-
tions.

BOOK II. Dover-court, in 1821, contained eight hundred and thirteen, and in 1831, nine hundred and twenty-six inhabitants.

the Dutch fleet, in the beginning of June, 1666, which continued for four days successively, as he fought by the admiral's side, on the second day, he lost his right leg by a cannon-ball; on the fourth, his life: yet, in spite of his wound, he would not suffer himself to be removed from the danger of the battle; but, while the rest of the wounded were carried on shore, he remained alone in the ship, which was shattered, and exposed to the fire of the enemy; and with surprising constancy waited the doubtful event of the battle, and his own life. His wounded body having for several days been tossed on the sea, was at length cast into this haven.

"Stay, reader, a moment: You do not yet know the character of this great man, who, having long executed the greatest public employments, had always the happiness of the public approbation; who, though he attained to riches and honours, yet escaped infamy and envy, not by artifice, but by the force of his integrity; and, in short, was a shining instance that innocence does not always forbid a man to engage in the affairs of a court. You have here the remains of a gentleman of integrity, honour, knowledge, abilities, and application; who supported labours and suppressed avarice; who neither defrauded the rich nor neglected the poor; and observed the strictest sincerity in word and action. His life was crowned with integrity; his death with fortitude: in both he was equally happy. The period of his life contained but three-and-forty years; yet, even in that short space, were exerted all the virtues and graces of life. He left a sorrowful widow, and a son five years old; a moderate estate, and an excellent character; and a deep regret for the loss of him. His sorrowful widow raised this monument, in order to do justice to his memory, and alleviate in some measure her own sorrow."

Over this inscription, on a pedestal, between two scrolls, sustained by pillars of black marble, are the effigies of sir William; and underneath, the family arms, viz. baron and femme, a bend, three swans, between three plates, a canton sinister, with a bear's claw, erased: impaled with a coat of arms, viz. a chevron between three mullets of five points, pierced.

There are also monuments and inscriptions to the memory of Roger Coleman, who died on the 6th of July, 1659, aged 63: of George Coleman, his nephew, who died in his mayoralty of this borough, in the year 1691: of Mary, the daughter of Carteret Leathes, esq. who died 27th March, 1758, aged 20 years: of Henry Pelham Davies, esq. who died January 28, 1782, aged 38: and of John Hopkins, esq. who died on the 18th day of March, 1828, in the 79th year of his age.

Charities. A farm, lying in Tendring, was given for the perpetual repairs of the chapel of Harwich. Mrs. Offley gave fifty shillings yearly to be distributed to the poor, at the discretion of the minister and churchwardens: she also gave to the poor two tenements in West street. Twelve wheaten loaves are given weekly to the poor by the corporation. This town also partakes of Mr. Henry Smyth's benefaction.

Alms-houses. There are alms-houses near the sea, but without endowment.

Mrs. Mary Wiseman, in 1758, left eighteen shillings per annum to the poor.

Remarkable occurrences. September 24, 1326, Isabel, queen of Edward the Second, landed here with an army of two thousand seven hundred soldiers, and many foreign and English nobles, in rebellion against the king, whom she pursued from place to place; and seizing Hugh Spencer, the father, caused him to be cut up alive and quartered, in the 90th year of his age.

July 16, 1340, king Edward the third, having determined to assert his right to the crown of France, sailed from the port of Orwell with a gallant fleet and army; but proving unsuccessful, he returned to England, and landed at Harwich, Feb. 21, 1340. After collecting large sums of money, he prepared to return to the continent; but being secretly informed that a French fleet of four hundred sail was waiting near Sluys to intercept him, he collected two hundred and sixty stout ships, with which he sailed from Orwell haven on the 22nd of June. At ten in the morning of Midsummer day, the two fleets engaged off the harbour of Sluys, where a most obstinate and bloody battle was fought, in which the

Harwich, in 1821, contained three thousand one hundred and ninety-seven, and in 1831, three thousand three hundred and seventy-one.

English gained a complete victory; thirty thousand of the French were killed, and two hundred of their ships taken.

June 8, 1543, Henry the eighth visited this town, as was supposed to survey that part of his navy which was stationed here.

March or April, 1558, the town was prepared for the reception of Philip of Spain, who married queen Mary, but his arrival is not recorded. During Mary's reign, June 15, 1555, William Jamford, a weaver, of Coggeshall, Thomas Watts, and four others, condemned as Protestants at Colchester, were burnt at Harwich.

On the 12th of August, 1561, queen Elizabeth was here, and accepted an entertainment from the burgers, lodging several days at a house in the central part of High-street; and, being attended by the magistracy and citizens on her departure as far as the windmill out of the town, she graciously demanding what they had to request of her? received from them this answer, "Nothing, only to wish her majesty a good journey;" on which she, turning her horse about, and looking upon the town, said, "A pretty town, and wants nothing;" and so bade them farewell.

October 3 and 4, 1666, Charles the second came from Newmarket to Landguard Fort, and to Harwich: he was accompanied by James duke of York, and the dukes of Monmouth, Richmond, and Buckingham; the earl of Oxford, lord Cornwallis, the marquis of Blanchford, and other noblemen. About this time, his majesty caused two sloops to be built here, of a small draught of water, to clear the sands before the harbour, then much infested by small Dutch picaroons; one of them was named the Spy, the other the Fan-fan: of this last, prince Rupert and his grace the duke of Albermarle, in their letter from sea to his majesty, dated July 27, 1666, gave this account: "That, on Thursday morning, July 26, it being very calm, and the enemy to windward of them, the Fan-fan, a small new sloop of two guns, built the other day at Harwich, made up with her oars toward the Dutch fleet, and drawing both her guns to one side, very formally attacked De Ruyter in the admiral's ship, and continued this honourable fight so long, till she had received two or three shots from him between wind and water, to the great laughter and delight of the fleet, and the indignation and reproach of the enemy." The famous naval fight which took place about this time between the Dutch and English was distinctly seen from the beacon hill.

King William the third was twice at Harwich, on his passage to and from Holland, in 1691; and George the first and second were several times here on their journeys to and from the continent.

December 3, 1728, Frederick prince of Wales, father of George the third, landed here from Hanover, coming incog., and arriving in London the following evening.

On the 6th of September, 1761, lord Anson, with the squadron having the intended queen of England on board, anchored in Harwich road. Her serene highness slept on board that night, and landing the following day, was received by the mayor and aldermen with the usual formalities.

Great floods have sometimes occurred here at high tides, of which the most remarkable was in the year 1723, when the water ran through West-street, and the stream was of so considerable a depth, that boats were rowed upon it.

On Wednesday, June 26, 1718, a most violent storm of thunder, lightning, and rain, beat down the windmill near the town.

January 3, 1784, at ebb tide the water sunk so low, that a shoal called the Gristle was dry one hundred and twelve yards in length, and twelve yards in breadth, by which the foundations of a castle and fortifications were discovered; and, on the same day, a terrible storm destroyed five fishing smacks belonging to the town.

April 18, 1807, a detachment of the seventy-ninth Highland regiment, who had gallantly signaled

BOOK II. Total of the population of Dover-court and Harwich—four thousand two hundred and ninety-seven.

ECCLESIASTICAL BENEFICES IN THE HUNDRED OF TENDRING.

R. Rectory.	V. Vicarage.	C. Chapelry.	D. Donative.	† Discharged.	
Parish.	Archdeaconry.	Incumbent.	Instituted.	Value in Liber Regis.	Patron.
Alresford, R.	Colchester.	T. Newman.....	1823	† 8 0 0	M. A. Newman, widow.
Ardleigh, V.		H. Bishop	1806	†11 0 10	Lord Chancellor.
*Bentley Great, V.		J. Robertson	1806	† 7 0 0	Bishop of London.
Bentley Little, R.		H. R. Somers Smith.	1825	13 0 0	Robert Foot, esq.
Bradfield, V.		Henry Thompson ..		†12 13 4	Lord Rivers.
*Beaumont, R.		B. J. Harrison.	1793	18 0 0	Guy's Hospital.
Brightlingsea, V.		J. Robertson	1809	†17 0 5	Bishop of London.
*Bromley Great, R.		H. G. Vernon	1807	16 16 0½	Valentine Warren.
Bromley Little, R. ..		Thomas Newman ..	1792	8 0 0	Rev. T. Newman.
Clacton Great, V. ...		H. Bishop	1823	†10 0 0	F. Nassau, esq.
Clacton Little, V. ...		W. R. Brown	1811	† 6 13 4	F. Nassau, esq.
Dover-court, V.		Samuel N. Bull	1827	† 5 10 0	Lord Chancellor.
†Elmsted, V.		William Wilson	1822	† 8 0 0	Jesus Col. Cambridge.
Frating, R.		Rec. of Thorrington	1832	†10 0 0	St. John's Col. Camb.
Frinton, R.		F. V. Luke.....	1818	† 7 6 8	W. Lushington, esq.
Harwich, C.		Vic. of Dover-court.	1827	C.V. 5 0 0	W. Dover-court Vic.
Holland Great, R. ...		Henry Rice	1813	17 13 9	Cor. Christ. Col. Oxf.
Holland Little, D. ...		Vic. of Gt. Clacton..		C.V. 6 0 0	F. Nassau, esq.
Kirby-le-Soken, V. ...	Exempt...	William Burgess....	1823	†10 0 0	Rev. W. Burgess.
§Lawford, R.	Colchester.	W. B. Whitfield	1822	15 0 0	St. John's Col. Camb.
*Mistley, R.		Henry Thompson...	1811	†16 13 4	Lord Rivers.
*Manningtree, C.		C. Norman	1820	Not in charge	Rect. of Mistley.
Oakley Great, R. ...		John Carr	1783	23 0 0	St. John's Col. Camb.
Oakley Little, R.		George Burmester..	1830	13 11 0½	Thomas Scott, esq.
Ramsey, V.		Samuel N. Bull	1827	†15 0 0	Lord Chancellor.
St. Osyth, C.		W. R. Brown		Not in charge	F. Nassau, esq.
Tendring, R.		B. Cheese	1822	16 0 0	Baliol Col. Oxford.
Thorpe-le-Soken, V. ...	Pecu.....	V. of Kirby-le-Soken	1823	†16 0 0	W. Kirby-le-Sok. Vic.
Thorrington, R.	Colchester.	Richard Duffield....	1832	16 0 0	St. John's Col. Camb.
Walton-le-Soken, V. ...	Exempt. ...	V. of Kirby-le-Soken	1823	† 9 0 0	W. Kirby-le-Sok. Vic.
*Weeley		Archdeacon Lyall ..	1832		Bishop of London.
Wrabness, R.		J. F. Grant	1809	† 8 0 0	Lord Chancellor.

† Endowed with four hundred pounds, queen Anne's bounty and private benefaction.

§ Has one hundred and sixty new sittings, of which one hundred and ten are free.

themselves in Egypt, being put in a crazy vessel, called a bugg, of fifteen tons, to be conveyed from Landguard Fort to Harwich, she upset with one hundred and fifteen persons on board. On this melancholy occasion, were drowned captain Dawson and seventy-three soldiers; thirteen women, eight children, and three sailors.

APPENDIX TO VOL. II.

PAGE 115.

THE monumental antiquities of Saffron Walden church have, probably, at a former period, exceeded in interest those of any other in the county, the floor having been almost covered with brasses, all of which, with a single exception, have, either from negligence or design, disappeared. The one which still remains is in the south aisle of the chancel, and represents the effigies of a priest, with a shield of arms, bearing a chevron between three birds, and for device or crest, a pelican in its piety, with the motto, SIC CHRISTUS DILEXIT NOS. In the south aisle of the nave there is a flat stone, which, from the indentations, seems to have contained the effigies of a man and four women, with labels from each of the figures. There has been an inscription round the top of the stone, with dexter and sinister shields of arms, and a central ornament. There can be little doubt that this was the monument of John Nicholls and his four wives, which is recorded by Weever to have borne the following inscription:—

“ Of your cherite prey for the soulys of John Nichols

Alys, Jone, Alys, and Jone his wyfs.

Johannes : Pater noster miserere nobis.

Alisia : Fili redemptor mundi miserere nobis.

Joanna : Spiritus sancte misereri nobis.

Alisia : Sancta Maria miserere nobis.

Joanna : Sancta Dei genetrix virgo virginum miserere nobis.”

The family of ~~Nicholls~~ appears to have been settled at Walden at a very early period. Among Cole's manuscripts, in the British Museum, there are three deeds relating to certain lands transferred to John, the son of John Nichole, of Walden, and to John, the son of John Sewale, of Wykham, so early as the thirty-first of Edward the first. By the first of these, Richard Wymund, and his wife Brangwyne, daughter of Walter Curteys, grant these lands to the two foregoing persons; and

the deed is witnessed, among others, by Richard Nichole. By the second, Brangaine, after her husband's death, confirms the grant. And by the third, John, the son of John Nichole, of Walden, concedes all his rights in these lands to John Sewale. All of them seem to be of the same year. The seal, of brown wax, on the last, of which the impression is imperfect on one side, has a lion rampant, grappling with a dragon, and round it the inscription—"S^r (i.e. Sigillum) IOHⁿIS FIL' IOHⁿIS. . . .;" but, on account of the imperfection, it is impossible to say whether it belongs to John Nichole, or to John Sewale, though, since John Nichole is the granter, it most likely belongs to him.

From the known antiquity of the family at Walden, from the pedigree given in the visitation of the county (MSS. Harl. 1137, 1146, and 6065), from the frequent occurrence of the name in the manorial history of different parishes in various parts of the county, and from the circumstance that the calendar of wills, deposited in the registry of Chelmsford, contains one hundred and thirty four entries of wills of this family, commencing with Thomas Nicholl de Rochford, in 1400, it seems evident that the family of Nicholl were very early and extensively settled in Essex, and was, in all probability, the *stemma originalis* from which have descended the families of that name in Norfolk, Suffolk, Buckinghamshire, and other counties.*

* Arms:—Argent, on a chevron azure, between three wolves' heads; crased sa; as many crescents, ermine; on a canton of the third, a pheon of the first. Crest:—A squirrel, sa, holding a pheon, argent. Also, sa: a pheon, argent, on a canton of the second, a bird of the first, beaked, &c.

E R R A T A.

Page 121, line 15, *for* five pounds, *read* five shillings.

— 205, seventh line from the bottom, "Leeke," should be "Leake." In the same page:—Manuden hall was purchased of the nephews of the rev. William Calvert, by the present proprietor, John Martin Leake, Esq.

— 555, eighth line from the bottom, *for* Baker, *read* Hatton.

— 625, fifth line from the bottom, *for* fifty-two pounds ~~two~~ shillings, *read* fifty-two shillings and twopence, yearly.

— 760, the words, "an opulent grocer," &c. should have followed, "Mr. John Wallis, of Colchester," line 19, same page.

In several places, in the Notes, *for* baronetage, *read* baronage.

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